

THE JOURNAL

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No lack of El Cerrito manager hopefuls

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The city's future appears promising if you judge by how many people want to be its top administrative official.

Interim City Manager Susan Westman reports that the city has received 45 applications for the El Cerrito city manager's position.

"I think the city ought to be quite pleased with getting the 45 applications," Westman said last Tuesday. "I think that shows there is a real interest in El Cerrito and that there are people who want to come here and help the city move forward."

Westman said the City Council and a consultant will do their first screening of the applications this Monday. "They are planning to interview a selected group of finalists on Jan. 3," Westman added.

Although the exact number of finalists the council will meet is not known, Westman said the group will probably consist of four to seven hopefuls.

A dinner is planned on that date as well so that councilmembers can get to know the applicants in a less formal setting. "This gives the council the oppor-

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Selection starting for chief executive

By Clare Curley

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — The City Council is moving into the next phase of seeking a new city administrator, with members currently meeting to review resumes to make recommendations for interviews.

While they are right on schedule in their attempt to fill the position vacated by Daren Fields last summer, according to councilmember Jon Ely, finding the right person will be the hard part.

"I'm pretty positive," he said. "We have to be."

Councilmembers will be considering 36 applicants, a majority of whom have worked in city administration.

Yet a handful of candidates are seeking opportunities to get into the field, a few of whom are from financial businesses, and one who is an Air Force officer.

The goal is to fill the position by February.

The duties are now being filled by an interim, Tom Sinclair, whose progress during his few short months in the position was lauded by Councilman Robert Good.

"I wish we could keep him," said Good, whose second term on the council ended this week.

Fields' position involved him in the city's key development issues over the last few years. He worked on the library community center, the reconstruction of Solano Avenue, the economic redevelopment zone and negotiating the purchase of six acres of open space on Albany Hill.

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WCCUSD employees set for pay raises

■ Workers still must vote on tentative contract agreements with district's four unions

By Suzanne Pardington

TIMES STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — West Contra Costa school employees — from janitors to principals — are set to get double-digit raises under tentative contract agreements reached with the district's four unions.

Negotiators finalized the last of the offers to most of the district's 3,800 employees Monday night.

Teachers, buoyed by a state push to make teachers' salaries more attractive, will see their pay rise 10 percent this

school year if they approve the contract. United Teachers of Richmond members plan to vote on the agreement by Dec. 20.

Clerical staff, administrators and supervisors are also in line for 10 percent raises.

The agreements were fueled by California's decision to inject an extra \$1.79 billion this year into districts statewide to spend as they pleased. West Contra Costa schools received \$15 million; the raises will cost \$13 million this year.

Under the agreement with the teachers union, salaries for first-year credentialed teachers would jump from \$32,000 to \$35,200 a year. Teachers with at least 28 years of experience would climb from \$56,813 last year to \$62,494 this year.

Terri Jackson, president of the union, said many of the district's 2,000 teachers will be satisfied with the pay hike, despite the union's efforts to lobby for a few more percentage points.

"A lot of people haven't seen that kind of increase in their teaching career," she said. "I know I haven't."

Jackson said the raise would make the salaries in the 33,000-student district more competitive with some East Bay districts, but they would still lag behind others.

Teachers in the Mt. Diablo Unified School District received a 10 percent raise this year, boosting their salary range to \$35,840 to \$64,609. But on Dec. 1, all salaries will shoot up an additional \$3,885 when teachers lose their district-paid

medical coverage. Teachers in Oakland earn \$36,701 to \$65,445 after a nearly 14 percent raise this school year.

Both sides in West Contra Costa teacher contract negotiations abandoned efforts to link the amount of the raise with the outcome of the district's appeal of a state attendance audit. If the district loses its appeal, it could be forced to pay back \$8.5 million in past revenue and millions more in future revenue.

The district has set aside \$3 million in its 2000-01 budget in case the appeal fails.

The union had asked for another 2 percent to 3 percent raise if the district wins the appeal, but Jackson said district officials were nervous about tying raises

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EVE A. MA AND NATASHA RAVNIK/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

STUDENTS, INDIVIDUALS and community groups took part in the painting.

Mural project tells local story

Temporary walls allowing El Cerrito Plaza shoppers a safe view of construction on the northern half of the mall have become an attraction of their own as murals depicting local history and the area's many cultures. The El Cerrito Plaza Mural Project was the brainchild of Regency Realty Corporation, which developed the original idea and worked extensively to solicit funding for the murals.

Celebrating Culture & Community provided the man and womanpower, as well as the creative insight, to produce the art pieces. The project gave artists ranging in age from 5 to 96 a chance to portray the people and locations past and present that have forged the community we know today. The finished murals are expected to stay in place for a year during the construction of the new Plaza. A "Painter's Wall" pays tribute to everyone who picked

up a brush during the month of painting.

The Journal is a sponsor of the project, along with the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce, the El Cerrito Plaza Merchants Association, Physical Therapy Innovations, Sunset View Cemetery & Association, The Art Store, The Home Depot and the Non-Profits' Insurance Alliance of California. CC&C also donated funds from its California Arts Council grant. Participating schools, community groups and artists included Susan Wehrle, Portola Middle School, Sheryl Gates, Berkeley/Albany Chinese School, Lisa Greenstein, Albany YMCA, Lila Banuelos, the El Cerrito Community Center, Teens Club, Michelle Seville, Denyse Biagi, Alex Peter, and Frederic Thouvenin. Other volunteers included the Kensington Read-Aloud Volunteer Program and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond.



EVE A. MA AND NATASHA RAVNIK/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MURALS PORTRAY the area's cultures, history and physical setting.

Parents angered by closed board meeting

By Kate Darby Rauch

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A routine school board meeting turned chaotic Tuesday night after the board cut off public comments over its stalled salary talks with the Albany Teachers Association.

The salary negotiations weren't on the meeting's agenda, but a packed house of parents and students showed up in support of the teachers, lining up to speak during the public comment period.

When the school board cut off the public comment period after an hour, leaving a line of people wanting to speak, the audience protested with shouts and clapping, refusing board members' calls for calm and quiet.

After a brief recess, the board continued the meeting in a smaller room, inviting the media but excluding the public — a move that further antagonized the crowd.

"That was really stupid. To cut off all those parents was incredibly arrogant and clearly not engaging in good faith efforts with parents," said Sally Martin, a parent who circulated a petition at the meeting to recall the board members,

See BOARD, Page A12

New members, new mayor on Albany council

By Clare Curley

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — As predicted, City Councilman Allan Maris took over the city's mayoral reigns Monday night, with Peggy Thomson filling his shoes as vice mayor, at a swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected officials.

The two were unanimously elected after incumbent Jon Ely and newcomers Jewel Okawachi and Mario DiPrisco also stepped into their new positions on the council.

The room was packed with dozens of friends, neighbors and family members of council members, school board members and other city officials, not to mention a few die-hard council attendees.

Having served in his position for two years, Maris was the only member whose seat was not up for election this year.

He began by thanking outgoing mayor Jon Ely for his work over the past four years, crediting him with numerous accomplishments during that time.

"We initiated the San Pablo Avenue Vision Plan (and) Facade Improvement Plan, started constructing affordable housing, initiated the Martin Group Eastshore Highway office park development, planted 266 trees, completed phase one of the Memorial Park Improvement Project — that's a lot, Jon, and I'm only halfway through the list," said Maris.

He also referred to some key projects that lie ahead, such as purchasing land for playing fields, finishing a park project on Pierce Street, and implementing traffic improvements.

None of which the city can currently afford.

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WORTH CHECKING OUT

AHS Winter Concert

Albany High School's Instrumental Music Winter Concert takes place Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Albany High School Little Theater. This promises to be one of the music program's best concerts, partially due to the addition of its noted rhythm and blues band, Rhythm Bound as a part of the new Digital Recording Studio class. The exciting lineup for the winter concert will be Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band (which this year features Natalie Spautz as female vocalist with the big band), an all new Intro to Rock and Roll Band, and Rhythm Bound.

Holiday concert

Albany residents are invited to a free holiday concert at Memorial Park, in front of the Veterans' Building, on Wednesday, Dec. 20. The Albany Jazz Band & Chorus will play holiday music from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and there is a strong possibility that a visitor from the North Pole will arrive during the concert.

ECBS staging play

The El Cerrito High School Drama Department presents "Rashomon," by Fay and Michael Kanin, at 8 p.m. on Dec. 15 and 16 in the Little Theatre of the school, 540 Ashbury Ave. Tickets are \$8. Details: 510-524-7351.

EC board openings

El Cerrito is seeking applicants for city boards and commissions. Vacancies currently, or will soon, include one position on the Design Review Board, four positions on the Human Relations Commission, and two on the Park and Recreation Commission. The city also needs two volunteers for the Planning Commission and three people for the Tree Commission. All applicants must be El Cerrito residents. Contact the city clerk's office at 10890 San Pablo Ave., or call 510-215-4305 for more information and an application. The deadline for applying is Dec. 21.

Kensington story time

The Kensington Branch Library, 61 Arling-

ton Ave., is hosting Family Story Time at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 19, featuring holiday stories told by the children's librarian. Details: 510-524-3043.

Programs for young folks

The El Cerrito Community Center at 7007 Mooser Lane offers special programs for children from 22 months to 5 years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. Teeter Tots is a program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years and meets Monday-Thursday, from 9 a.m.-noon. The program for ages 3-1/2 to kindergarten meets Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Casa Cerrito Tots is a program for ages 3-1/2 to 5 that provides skill building and kindergarten readiness activities in an exciting age-appropriate setting. Toilet trained children are preferred. Registration is ongoing as long as space is available. Details: Judie Bellotti, 510-215-4371.

Swastikas reported painted on resident

STAFF REPORT

EL CERRITO — A couple living on the 1500 block of Regency Court reported that swastikas were painted on their driveway and mailbox the night of Dec. 6.

A handful of hate crimes — crimes motivated by racial, religious or sexual prejudices — are reported in El Cerrito each year, police said, but this incident was apparently not among them.

The couple, a 44-year-old man and woman, told police they didn't suspect anyone for the incident and opted not to report it as a hate crime.

"They didn't seem really concerned about racial ramifications," said El Cerrito investigator Sgt. Wayne Mann. "The reporting officer walked around the neighborhood looking for any additional damage or evidence," but found none.

Mann noted it is up to the victim whether or not to report an incident as a hate crime.

"A hate crime could be an assault, or racial epithets uttered while a person was being assaulted," he said.

The location of this latest incident is in a relatively secluded area with a view of the Bay and not a typical target of crime in general.

But it also a spot where local youths get together to drink, and they may have been responsible for the vandalism, said Mann, adding that police regularly patrol the area.

The first week of December brought in the usual excess of vehicle break-ins, usually leading to stolen property and vandalism rather than stolen cars.

POLICE REPORTS

The night of Dec. 1 a cellular phone was allegedly stolen from a 1998 Ford Explorer that was broken into while it was parked on the 500 block of Kearney Street.

The next night the window was shattered of a 2000 Chevrolet Express van, apparently with a BB gun, while it was parked on the 6500 block of Hagen Boulevard.

The night of Dec. 4 the steering column housing was torn in a 1997 Honda Accord, apparently in an attempt to steal the car on the 900 block of Kearney, according to a report. The right front window was smashed, as well, amounting to \$500 in damage.

A similar attempt occurred on the 400 block of Liberty Street the same night, as well as on the 2600 block of Sonoma Street, where an in-dash stereo was removed from an un-locked 1984 Volvo 240 GL.

In addition, on Nov. 23, a stereo was removed from a 1997 Hyundai Accent on the 11760 block of San Pablo Avenue. Police suspect a screwdriver was used to punch in the passenger door lock for entry.

There are no suspects for any of the incidents.

Shortly after midnight on Nov. 26 a man allegedly stole two bottles of gin from the 10636 San Pablo Ave. Safeway Store, concealing at least one of them in his pants.

An employee told police she saw the man leaving the store with a "large, protruding bulge" in his pants,

shortly after she saw him check the side of a car for empty gin boxes.

On Nov. 25 four men were spotted patrolling the 10175 San Pablo Avenue, after receiving information from their packaging company.

The night of Dec. 4, two breakers were removed from a stolen car located at 41900 in Walnut Creek.

Two employees are of stealing an undeposited amount from the office of Kensington Financial, 10175 San Pablo Avenue.

Muggers made off with \$19, Nov. 19.

First, a 48-year-old woman was taken to the bathroom at Burger King on Central Ave. When she entered, turned off the lights and tried to force the man out of his wallet. He ran away and the victim fled.

Later that day a woman had her purse stolen from two youths at a store on the BART park between the venue and Lincoln Avenue.

The suspect then rode off northbound on the path,

Giant prize giveaway set for chamber meet

Hundreds of dollars worth of prizes: ranging from lamps, coffee makers and jewelry to teddy bears, candy and wine: will be up for grabs at the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce's annual Holiday Luncheon next Tuesday.

In addition to the long list of prizes that will be available at the organization's final business meeting of the year, everyone attending the noon event at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club will receive three small gifts.

Members and guests who plan to attend that they must make reservations by calling the Chamber office at 510-233-7040 before the close of business today.

The meeting is scheduled to get underway at noon with a champagne reception hosted by outgoing Chamber President Michael Klingner and his wife, Jeannie.

This will be followed by a special holiday buffet lunch during which a musical program will be presented by Music Inc., a group of Salesian High School students under the direction of Marcus Klingner.

Also included in the day's activities will be a short business session at which the results of the election for Chamber directors will be announced, and a new Executive Board for 2001 will be elected.

Voting deadline looms

All chamber members in good standing are being warned that their ballots for eight vacant seats on the group's Board of Directors must be into the organization's office at 10848 San Pablo Ave. by the close of business next Monday to be included in the final tabulation.

The 10 candidates who have been nominated to run for a seat on the board include:

Incumbents: June Boblitt, Full Circle Travel; Wil Chun, Mail Boxes Etc.; Larry Sanchez, Marvin Collins Construction; Bob Winslow, Winslow

El Cerrito Chamber

By Sewall Glinternick

Carpet Cleaning; Harry Kiefer, Keifer Furniture; and Allan B. Essex, Financial Network Investment Corp. Rounding out the field of candidates are Dick Disher, Advanced Instruments; Gretchen Grover, East Bay Municipal Utility District; Maria Galaviz, Contra Costa County Public Relations; and Martin Kaliski, Marty's Motors.

Wins attendance jackpot

It took exactly two years for someone new to win the El Cerrito Chamber's attendance jackpot.

The lucky winner was Torey Lovett, a job developer for the Contra Costa County Social Services Department, who walked off with a cash prize of \$200 at the Chamber's November business luncheon.

Lovett is the third winner of the coveted attendance prize. Past president Bill Kerber won it shortly after it was established, and Chamber Secretary/Treasurer Charlie Weaver won it at the November 1998 business meeting.

Manager calls for strong city/chamber partnership

"A lot of exciting things are going to be happening in El Cerrito: but they're only going to happen if the city has a strong partnership with the Chamber of Commerce."

This was the view expressed by interim City Manager Susan Westman in a talk to a packed house at the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce's November business luncheon.

Pointing out that this community is now headed in a new direction, Westman declared: "We're just on the edge of a lot of great things happening here: not just for business, but

for the town as well."

Saying that she wanted to work with the Chamber in the formation of a new economic development strategy, the city manager said we are also going to have to learn to work in partnership with the city of Richmond.

El Cerrito staff members, she went on, are now meeting to determine how to improve the delivery of city services. "New businesses coming in now will have a positive experience going through the permitting process," she promised.

"The city," she concluded, "is willing to work with you to improve the business climate in El Cerrito."

Economic Development Activities

In addressing the Chamber, Westman was filling in for Interim Economic Development Coordinator Julie Woepke, who was prevented by illness from giving her scheduled talk on "A New Direction For El Cerrito." Despite being unable to attend, Woepke supplied the following report on the highlights of economic development activities here in the last few months:

The Economic Development Board identified the need for a market study to gather baseline data that will enable the Board to develop an overall Economic Development Strategy. Requests for Proposals were distributed in September, with a selection made and endorsed by the Council in October. Staff has been working with the consulting firm of Magill Martin Self, Inc. in identifying the existing retail, office and non-residential market conditions and potential. The report of findings will be completed by the end of the year. The Board will take this information and work with a consultant to develop our strategy to identify our niche market and how to effectively

See CHAMBER, Page A4

Auto burglars hard at work last week

By K. Osborn

ALBANY — At about 7 p.m. on Dec. 4 officers responded to the 1100 block of Brighton Avenue on reports of a domestic dispute. The husband reported that his wife had attacked him and scratched his face with her hands. She was arrested, cited and released on bail.

At about 8:30 p.m. on Dec. 4 a resident on the 400 block of Evelyn Avenue reported that thieves had broken into her silver '86 Honda Accord within the previous hour while it was parked in her carport. There were no witnesses.

On the afternoon of Dec. 5 a resident on the 1100 block of Key Route Boulevard reported that during the night vandals had broken out the window of his '82 Dodge Ram pickup. There were no witnesses.

At about 2 p.m. on Dec. 5 officers responded to Albany High School on reports of a non-student on campus who was refusing to leave. Officers arrested the 17-year-old Albany boy and he was released with a Notice to Appear.

At about 1 a.m. on Dec. 6 officers noticed a Toyota Tercel with a smashed window near Francis and Curtis streets. Apparently vandals broke into the car and prowled the glove box. There were no witnesses

and the owner was notified.

On the morning of Dec. 6 a resident on the 1000 block of Kains Avenue reported that thieves had broken into his black '94 Nissan Sentra parked in the car port. They stole various items and departed unseen.

On the morning of Dec. 6 a resident on the 800 block of Solano Avenue reported that thieves had broken into his green '94 Toyota pickup and stole bicycle items. There were no witnesses.

Shortly after noon on Dec. 6 a resident on the 1000 block of Key Route Boulevard reported that thieves had broken into her silver and black Mazda during the night. They apparently had attempted to steal the car but were unsuccessful. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of Dec. 7 officers investigated a white Toyota Corolla on the 500 block of Pierce Street that appeared to have been entered and prowled. The owner was notified.

On the afternoon of Dec. 7 officers contacted a 15-year-old Albany boy on the 600 block of Key Route Boulevard for suspicious activity. He was arrested for possession of mar-

ijuana and for being intoxicated with a Notice to Appear.

At about 7 p.m. on Dec. 6 officers contacted a man at 10848 Fields who appeared to be in a brown '85 Audi sedan. Police determined that the car was stolen, cited and held to be released when sober.

On the night of Dec. 6 a resident on the 600 block of Key Route Boulevard reported that his white '91 Dodge Stratus had been stolen. There were no witnesses.

At about 2 a.m. on Dec. 6 officers stopped a green '88 Buick for erratic driving. The 29-year-old Florida man, who was intoxicated, held to be released when sober.

On the morning of Dec. 7 officers of a school on the 700 block of Jackson Street reported that a car had been burglarized during the night. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of Dec. 7

ident on the 800 block of

See POLICE, Page A4

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ANDREW GABEL, Dan LeGate, Simon Patton (back), Joanne Gabel, Marie Cochran, Jane Raveater (front), in "Side by Side by Sondheim," playing Dec. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m., and Dec. 17 at 2 p.m., at Contra Costa Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. For reservations, call 510-524-9132 or visit www.ccct.org.

'Side by Side by Sondheim' this weekend at CCCT

EL CERRITO — Contra Costa Civic Theatre will present "Side by Side by Sondheim" for two weeks only, Fridays and Saturdays, Dec. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 17 at 2 p.m. The PlayMakers musical review stars Marie Cochran, Dan LeGate, and Jane Raveater. Musical director Joanne Gabel and Andrew Gabel are featured on piano and Simon Patton of Kensington is narrator. It includes music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and music by Leonard Bernstein, Mary Rodgers, Richard Rodgers, and Jule Styne, with continuity by Ned Sherrin.

Sondheim has dazzled Broadway with some of America's most creative contemporary musicals. "Side by Side" features songs from some of them, including "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," "Company," "Follies," "A Little Night Music," and "Pacific Overtures," for which he wrote both music and

lyrics. It also includes selections from "Gypsy," "Do I Hear a Waltz?," "The Mad Show," and "West Side Story," to which he contributed lyrics.

Marie Cochran appeared in "Carousel," starring Robert Goulet, in the mid-1960s. Since then she has appeared in hundreds of professional and community theatre shows, in addition to teaching voice to all ages from six to 65 on both sides of the Bay, with studios in Pleasanton and Burlingame.

Dan LeGate last appeared at CCCT in "Guys and Dolls" and previously in "Oklahoma!." Last summer he starred at Woodminster in "Forever Plaid," in which he will also appear at California Conservatory Theatre in January.

Jane Raveater has appeared in numerous musicals and plays in the Bay Area, including "Showboat," "Blithe Spirit," and "Alone Together" at CCCT, "The Most Happy Fellow" at Diablo Light Opera Company, and

"A Little Night Music" at The Masquers Playhouse. Most recently she was in "Three Tall Women" at The Little Theatre in Hayward.

Joanne Gabel, has served as musical director for numerous productions at Pinole Players and at CCCT, where she is scheduled for "The Sound of Music" next spring. Andrew Gabel has worked with his mother on many productions at both theaters, in addition to starring in "Forever Plaid" at Pinole and appearing in CCCT productions.

Simon Patton has appeared in several CCCT shows, including last season's very successful PlayMakers production of "The Real Inspector Hound" and the earlier "Dinner at Eight."

Admission to "Side by Side by Sondheim" is \$10 for adults, \$6 for youth, 16 and under. For reservations call 510-524-9132. For further information, visit CCCT's Web site at www.ccct.org.

NEWS BRIEFS

DUI checkpoint scheduled Friday

ALBANY — The Police Department will be conducting a DUI checkpoint on San Pablo Avenue on Friday, Dec. 15, between the hours of 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday morning. All vehicles proceeding North in the 400 block of San Pablo Avenue will be stopped and the driver contacted.

The checkpoint operation will provide for two drivers to be checked simultaneously. We do not expect this operation will cause any particular traffic problems, however should that occur, plans for suspending the checkpoint to eliminate any traffic backup.

Emergency vehicles, other publicly owned vehicles and utility company vehicles will be expedited through the checkpoint.

Temporary assignment to El Cerrito High vacancy

Cal Auten, a former West Contra

Costa Unified School District elementary principal will assist at El Cerrito High School starting next week, helping with the duties of former assistant principal Katherine Burgardt, who was assigned to Portola Middle School, effective Monday.

Auten, a retired WCCUSD elementary principal, will assist at the high school until a permanent assignment is made.

Food bank needs more poultry, hams

Some of the holiday baskets provided by the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano counties may be a little on the light side this year. There aren't enough turkeys, hams and chickens to go around, according to the bank's executive director, Larry Sly.

Last December, the food bank distributed almost 2,000 turkeys to families, but this year, there are only about 1,000 in the warehouse, he said.

"For people on a limited income, getting nutritious food is difficult at any time of the year," Sly said. "Donations will help families in need to have a holiday meal as good as yours or mine."

Turkeys are a mainstay in baskets for families, but single people and the elderly may be better served with a chicken or ham.

Donations of poultry or hams must be made at the bank, 4010 Nelson Ave., Concord. Other food items may be dropped in barrels at any Safeway store or Cal Fed Bank, or at participating Mail Boxes Etc. locations.

More than 77,000 people receive food each month, Sly said, including children, homeless families and low-income seniors.

For more information, call the food bank at 800-870-3663.

OBITUARY

Ethel J. Bertino

Ethel J. Bertino, 93, a resident of Albany for 30 years, died Dec. 8. Services are being held privately by her family. She moved to Vacaville in 1999 due to illness. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Evelyn and Cal Turman of Walnut Creek; nieces Carol Tauber of Colorado Springs, Colo., Ruth Ghio of Grass Valley, Calif.; nephews Gerald Josephson of Suisun, Jeff Josephson of Cottonwood, Jim Turman of Minneapolis, Minn., Bill Turman of Walnut Creek, Irv Turman of Red Bluff, and Frank Leach of Paeon, Utah. Inurnment will be in Sunset Mausoleum, El Cerrito.

Best Inn scaling back expansion proposal

EL CERRITO — The owner of the Best Inn—El Cerrito has decided to go back to his original plan of expanding his current motel instead of building a separate six-story, 80-room "upscale" addition.

In a report to the City Council last week, Acting Community Development Manager Steve Mitchell said that the owner of the motel, Kanti Patel, decided to revert back to his original plan after analyzing the cost of construction and environmental and parking issues.

"Mr. Patel is enthused about continuing on with this project and will be submitting his updated plans to the Planning Division shortly," Mitchell reported. "Staff will review the information provided by Mr. Patel and will subsequently begin the planning and environmental review process."

Patel's original expansion plan called for a four-story, 50-unit expansion of his motel at Potrero Avenue and Eastshore Boulevard. He sent a proposal letter for the project to the Redevelopment Agency in June of 1998.

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Opinion

VIEWPOINT

An open letter to the parents of Albany

By Susan Charlip

Many thanks to the parents and children of Albany who turned out in droves on Tuesday night (Dec. 12) for the school board meeting. The Albany Teachers' Association is deeply grateful to you for coming out to support us in our efforts to negotiate a fair and reasonable settlement with the District. It was a pleasure to listen to your smart, articulate, generous and impassioned plea for fairness and equity on our behalf.

Thank you for so readily acknowledging our tradition of care and dedication in the classroom, our extra efforts and personal commitment to nurture and teach your children, despite a school board that continually places salary adjustments in the lowest priority of their budget concerns.

I have been teaching English in Albany schools for almost 19 years, and I continue to do so for the simple reason that I love your kids. I am infected by their enthusiasm for learning and each other and the challenging literature that we read together. I love teaching high school, and I came back to it after completing all the coursework and exams for a Ph.D. in Comparative Lit. I never wrote a dissertation because I realized that my heart was in the classroom and not in Lingua Franca, and besides, where could I possibly find a better place to live and work than here in the Bay Area?

My brother is a "toxic tort" attorney in Florida, and when I first moved here from the East Coast 20 years ago, I thought I would be going home to follow in his footsteps. After one week in San Francisco, I canceled my checks to NYU Law School (where I was nominated for a scholarship) and immediately moved here and became a teacher. I was never sorry that I didn't go to law school, despite the difference in my earning potential; yet after all these years, I am realizing that, despite my great love for teaching, for literature, and for your children, I must consider other options in order to survive here. I never imagined it could happen, but these battles for a fair wage are exhausting and take precious time and energy out of my teaching—which even after all these years takes nearly 12 hours a day.

In our negotiations with the district, the ATA took a close look at the budget. It is a mystery to us (and evidently board members themselves) how the district could make such major mistakes in their calculations and why they spent so much money since the summer, regardless of their public assertion that they support a healthy salary increase for teachers. We see exactly how the money is being spent. The board insists that there is no money to pay for the increase we negotiated on, that is simply not true.

We urge parents to pay close attention to the way this board is managing the school budget. The district received more than 12 percent new money from the state this year, including an unprecedented 10.94 percent cost of living allowance — a direct result of CTA's successful protest in Sacramento, with 10,000 teachers representing districts state-wide. This new money does not include the nearly \$2 million parcel tax funds, a recurring revenue source which is rare among Bay Area school districts. The money for a fair and equitable raise is there. It is a question of setting priorities and managing resources.

In the 19 years I have taught in Albany, each time the ATA negotiated a salary increase of more than 1 or 2 percent, we've had to go to the streets, organize ourselves and the community, and holler and scream until sense prevailed.

Last night the board shut down the meeting rather than take some extra time to listen to your concerns. After one hour of comments, they moved the meeting to attend to their agenda. According to the student journalist who was present in their meeting, they nearly tripled the allotted 20 minutes on their first agenda item. Clearly, the Albany School Board's concerns are not your own.

Susan Charlip is negotiations chair of the Albany Teachers Association.

We urge parents to pay close attention to the way this board is managing the school budget.

Little Elly would like you to feed all the starving people in Somalia

No problem!

Tommy would like you to bring Peace and Harmony to all places on Earth

No problem!

Joanna wishes that all the Homeless find shelter and food this Winter

No problem!

...and Ryan would like you to ensure no power outages in the Bay Area

WHAT DO THESE KIDS WANT?? A MIRACLE??

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A great job establishing resource officer

The following groups of people deserve a huge pat on the back for working to establish a School Resources Officer at Albany High School. They are: The Albany School Board, the Albany High School Faculty, Albany High School campus aides Joette Truitt and Josh Freeman, the Albany Police Department, the Albany High students, Police Chief Larry Murdo, the citizens of Albany, and Police Officer/School Resources Officer Mike Ayers.

Why? Because now that school has been in session for a little over a month, the amount of "less than desirable" behavior has been greatly curtailed, thanks to everyone who had a part in ensuring the placement of a School Resources Officer on campus. The amount of speeding or "drag-racing" cars around the high school is almost nil, the vandalism of Memorial Park is at an all-time low, there are fewer fights in the area (homecoming week notwithstanding), the once-common dice-throwing/drug-dealing episodes seem to be a thing of the past, the amount of trash in the park area is also at an all-time low, and there are very few negative comments made about the condition of Memorial Park by park users.

Those who were dead set against the placement of a School Resources Officer were, I'm sure, correct in what they perceived to be potential downsides of an SRO program, but now, it should be crystal clear that this was the very best thing that could have happened... not only for the students, but also the community at large. I make these observations not only as a citizen of Albany and an employee at Memorial Park, but also as a nearby homeowner.

Additionally, Mike Ayers' presence at the school, not to mention his rapport with young adults in general, has greatly bridged the gap between the police, who are often, and mistakenly so, viewed as the ultimate "wet blanket," and the students, who are often, and also mistakenly so, viewed as the ultimate hell-raisers.

At the risk of repeating myself, I want to commend all who had a part in finally making the SRO program a reality at Albany High School. You've done a great job!

Jennifer Adams
Albany

Learn to help one another

We used to have one of the nicest cities in Contra Costa, but we started having a problem. The people who lived up on the hill always thought they were so much better than the people that lived at the bottom of the hill.

Let the developers make their share, but also share with the needy, such as the development we have at Shirley Manor, where the apartments stay at a reasonable price for people who live on Social Security.

Regarding what I call low-income housing for the needy elderly, everybody forgets maybe

these people were financially fixed, but a tragedy wiped out their earnings.

We have to learn in this country to help one another and not be so selfish and greedy. Let's learn to help one another and rebuild this nice city. I've lived here since 1948, so I know about crooked politicians, developers, and people who don't care except for what they can get, and the heck with everybody else. The El Cerrito Plaza is something that anybody from El Cerrito was proud of; we missed the boat and could have had one of the best city shopping centers.

Edward Bradley
El Cerrito

Appalling situation

Just how low will our politicians sink?

As a volunteer for a small non-profit organization devoted to trying to make life a little better for the poor of the Third World, I was appalled to read about Gov. Davis' not one, but three, self-serving "non-profit foundations."

The \$1.5 million used for his Hollywood extravaganzas is more than many legitimate non-profits see in a year. I am also appalled that large corporations would fund such "foundations."

As I recall, the non-profit for which I volunteered was required to list its five largest donors with the Internal Revenue Service as public information. Are there special non-disclosure rules for Davis' foundations?

How do we ever achieve campaign finance reform when we allow such chicanery?

Norma Gray
Berkeley

Casting a shadow

As a man of honor, George W. Bush should insist on a revote in Florida. The irregularities in the voting there are great enough to cast a shadow over a victory.

He should not assume the presidency with such clouds of doubt hanging over it. I am certain Gov. Bush wants to win the election fairly and decisively. A revote would convince critics that he is a uniter, not a divider. I surely hope he will do the right thing and stand by the results.

Failing this, perhaps we should consider an entire new election, regardless of cost. It would surely be worth it if it left the population satisfied of the fairness and legitimacy of the process.

Ann Whitehead
El Cerrito

A vote for decency

The ferocious assault on Ralph Nader by many desperadoes in the mainstream media and by some of his fickle supporters has to do with something other than his lifelong struggle to improve our lives in this country.

Because of Nader's relentless struggle and unabated dedication to do what's right, we live better, safer and more protected lives. Water and air acts, the EPA, OSHA, airbags, seat belts, and

the Freedom of Information Act are but some of the things Nader has helped to achieve.

One of the main disparaging songs that Nader bashers were dancing to before the election was, "A vote for Nader is a vote for Bush." This is hogwash; most of those who support Nader are fed up with the two major candidates. They are disenchanted with the two ruling parties.

Among Nader's supporters are the voiceless, the disenfranchised, the disinherited and the true seekers for economic, political and social justice.

Whether a person agrees with Nader's philosophy or not, he speaks for those who feel excluded from the benefits of what a genuine democratic process has to offer.

The overriding reason behind Nader's characterization as a spoiler is, to put it bluntly, because of his Arab heritage.

Nader is of Arab ethnic background, and that alone makes him a target for those who have dedicated their lives to dehumanizing the Arabs and Muslims in this country and abroad.

In addition to his heritage, Nader took a humanitarian stand against the United States' strangling economic sanctions against Iraq and against the Israeli occupation and deprivation of the Palestinian people.

Such a stand is consistent with Nader's advocacy for justice — wherever injustice is committed. A vote for Nader was not a vote for Bush; it was a vote for decency!

Ali H. Alyami
Kensington

Take leadership role

Last week, more than 150 nations gathered at The Hague in the Netherlands to negotiate details of the Kyoto Protocol, the international treaty on global warming.

The conference is considered by many to be the last chance to determine how to implement the accord and meet the standards that it set in 1997.

Never before has the world's scientific community spoken so boldly about the human influence on the climate as they did at this conference. This strengthened consensus supports immediate action to halt disruption to our climate. Scientists and citizens around the world will hold leaders accountable if they fail to respond.

Unfortunately, the United States, the world's top emitter of greenhouse gases, continued to play an obstructionist role in these talks.

Instead of blocking progress, the United States should take a leadership role and support a strong global warming treaty. Then, the United States and the world can begin the global energy transition toward clean fuels that will not only head off the worst impacts of global warming, but will also strengthen our economy and reduce pollution.

This would be a legacy all Americans could be proud of.

James Schinnerer
Albany

Change the Electoral College

Nothing else, this presidential election has proved that the Electoral College was set up by wealthy white men so they could elect the president, no matter what the general population wanted.

We have an opportunity to change the Electoral College so that California joins Maine and Nebraska by doing out its Electoral College votes the winner in each congressional district. If all states used this system, there would not be president-elect California has led the way in many areas. Why not this one?

It is very distressful to read Democrats are categorically against this. One of the consequences of this election should be more cooperation and a spirit of conciliation. Because Democrats are in power in California seems to me a wonderful opportunity for us to show compassion and unity in what our democracy stands for.

I hope Assemblyman Tony Strickland's bill gets bi-partisan support and becomes law soon.

Anne Smith
Berkeley

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Mediation may mend fences over disputed trees

A disagreement that came before the Tree Commission in El Cerrito has already resulted in one commissioner's decision to resign

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Eucalyptus trees blocking San Francisco Bay and Golden Gate views are causing Tree Commission woes, as well as hard feelings and questions about how the commission's meetings are being conducted.

In correspondence that dates back to 1991, residents on Shevlin Drive near Moeser Lane have complained that their views have been obstructed by eucalyptus trees owned by a neighbor living on Seaview Drive to their west.

In 1998 and 1999 the matter became more active. This year, after a failed attempt to use the services of the Contra Costa Conflict Resolution Panel, four Shevlin Drive households brought the matter before the city Tree Commission.

"We are not seeking to have the older trees removed, just to have them topped," the neighbors state in their April 12, 2000, application for a Tree Commission hearing. They also asked that "new growths" that have grown taller than the older original trees be removed.

At last month's commission meeting the owner of the trees, Evelyn Kiresen, was represented by attorney and former city councilman and mayor Norman La Force.

After that meeting Tree Commissioner Shirley De Witt Finnegan resigned from the commission. In a Nov. 27 letter to the city, Finnegan said her advice to the neighbors complaining of obstructed views was to "find a lean and mean attorney and take it from there."

As for the November Tree Commission meeting, Finnegan said that La Force "immediately took control of the meeting" and "at once set an extremely litigious tone for the rest of that evening."

Finnegan said the chairman of the

commission "either could not or would not chair this meeting" and that she felt La Force "asked pointless and sometimes insulting questions of the claimants."

At last week's City Council meeting, Councilwoman Gina Brusatori said "it sickened me" to read Finnegan's resignation letter. "It just looks like a kangaroo court," Brusatori added.

"I thought the Tree Commission was something that was more formal than sitting down in one's living room and talking about it, but less formal than going to small claims court," she said.

City Attorney Howard Stern said that while it might not be ideal, "the way the case is being conducted isn't contrary to the rules."

"In the history of this commission, are you aware of any case that has been conducted in that manner?" Brusatori asked Stern.

"We've only had, in the time that I've been city attorney, three cases before the Tree Commission," Stern answered. "This is the first case where someone has been represented actively by an attorney, but it is provided for within the ordinance, that one can have an attorney."

Earlier this week, Jaime and Faye Chow, two of the Shevlin Drive residents complaining of tree-obstructed views, said all those involved have agreed to take the matter to mediation.

The Chows said Stern is currently securing a mediation service to handle the matter.

The Chows did not want to say much about the dispute since mediation is apparently imminent. They purchased their home in 1974. Faye Chow said communications "broke down" earlier in the process, but emphasized "we've always wanted to come to a mutual agreement."

Kiresen, the owner of the trees, in correspondence on file at City Hall, repeatedly emphasizes her willingness to work with neighbors to resolve the matter. "As you know, the trees have been large for a long time, were planted many decades ago, and they are attractive to me in providing me with a lot of privacy," Kiresen wrote to the Chows in October, 1999. "However, I have been working on the supposition that as a neighborly gesture I would do my utmost to try to improve your views (if this was the issue) while main-

taining the aesthetic, environmental-ecological balance that the trees provide, privacy, as well as the substantial warmth in winter and cooling effect in summer that they bring."

While Kiresen had the trees thinned or "windowed" earlier this year to help restore some views, the Chows said it did not help much. At the November meeting, Kiresen also pointed out that she has regularly had her trees trimmed and maintained by professional arborists.

Earlier this week Kiresen said "there are lots and lots of issues that need to be addressed" and referred questions to her attorney, Norman La Force.

La Force said on Monday that Finnegan's letter raises concerns. "It seems apparent that there is tremendous confusion on the part of the commission as to what the legal import of their decisions can be."

"I think it's commendable that they would like to be in a mediating role, and that would certainly be welcome, but that's not how the ordinance (establishing the city's Tree Commission) is written," La Force said.

La Force said that the commission is established by the city ordinance as a "quasi-judicial body that can make findings of fact and conclusions of, essentially, law as to what should be done."

Furthermore, La Force said commission findings can be recorded at the county recorders office "as some sort of potential cloud on the title of the property."

"I said this at the proceeding — it's a schizophrenic ordinance," La Force said. "On the one hand it says people are supposed to get together to try to work something out, but it gives tremendous power to the commission to make decisions that can affect property values."

As for his role as Kiresen's attorney, La Force said "The Tree Commission ordinance specifically provides for a person to have an attorney and Ms. Kiresen has opted to exercise her right and she retained me."

La Force confirmed that the dispute is heading towards mediation. "The key is that it looks like the parties will try to do some mediation through a mediation service," La Force said.

Help local agencies make holidays happy for the needy

For many people, 'tis the season for helping those in need, from collecting toys for underprivileged kids to seeking donations for local blood banks. Here are some of the local efforts that can use your support to make the season bright for someone less fortunate:

"Toys for Tots"

Area fire departments are ramping up for "Toys for Tots," the yearly massive toy donations that will soon arrive from the Marine Corps.

■ In Berkeley, the project is one of several toy, food and blood drives the Fire Department and Firefighters Association are sponsoring for community residents.

The toy drive for new, unwrapped toys, is co-hosted by the 2000 Marine Corps Toys for Tots Holiday Toy Drive. Barrels for toys are available at all Berkeley fire stations and the new Public Safety Building. Toys will be accepted through Dec. 22.

The bulk of the toys are contributed by the US Marine Corps.

"Last year we gave away well over 2,000 toys," said Capt. Bobby Miller, who is helping organize the event. "We've gotten well over 600 toys already."

■ Albany Police Officer David Belman is organizing Albany's seventh "Toys for Tots" barrels throughout the city.

The toys will be distributed first to those Albany residents in need, and then the rest are taken to Berkeley, Richmond and Oakland.

Residents can deposit new, unwrapped toys at any of the toy barrels located in city buildings (police, fire, City Hall) and at the following local businesses: Albany Ford/ Subaru, Mechanics Bank, World Savings, Mary & Joe's Sports, City Bank, Norge Cleaners, Bank of America, California Bank and Trust and Child's Place. Toys will be collected on Dec. 16 and 17 for local distribution.

Barrels will be collected on Dec. 22 along with any other toys that might dropped off.

■ In El Cerrito donations to the annual toy drive by El Cerrito and Richmond fire fighters can be made through Dec. 23 at Santa's Village in the former Toy-Go-Round space in the courtyard at El Cerrito Plaza. Santa's Village is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For a donation of \$5 or a new, unwrapped toy kids can get their picture taken with Santa.

Blood drive

The Berkeley Firefighters Association and the American Red Cross are co-sponsoring a Blood Drive on Tuesday, Dec. 26, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at Station 2, 2029 Berkeley Way (at Shattuck Avenue). Call 800-448-3543 for an appointment.

Holiday food drive

Berkeley Fire Fighters Association and the Berkeley Lions Club are sponsoring a holiday food drive for needy

seniors in Albany. Food donations, such as meats, beans, pasta, soups, vegetables, are accepted through Dec. 15.

Food barrels are available at Berkeley fire stations and Public Safety Building. Call Williams at 510-444-0111 for information.

To find your nearest food drive for more information, call Berkeley Fire Department, Station 2, in Berkeley, Tel. 847-3543, 510-444-0111 Fax: 510-444-0112, e-mail: fire@cityofberkeley.org

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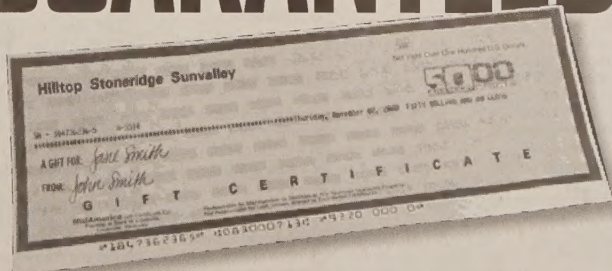
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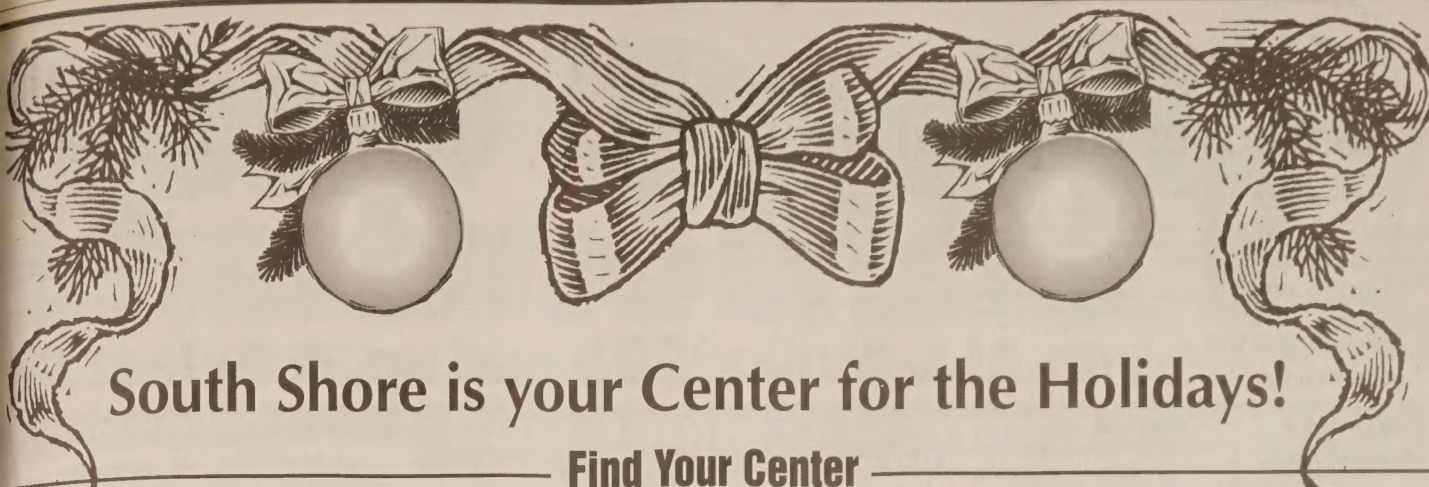
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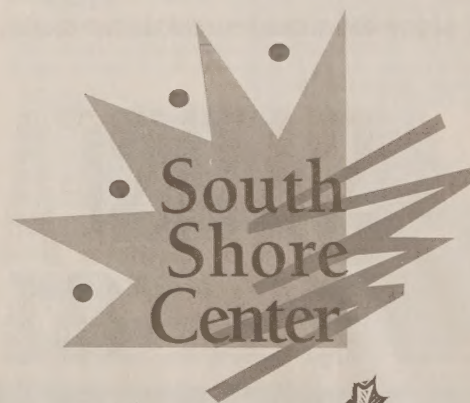
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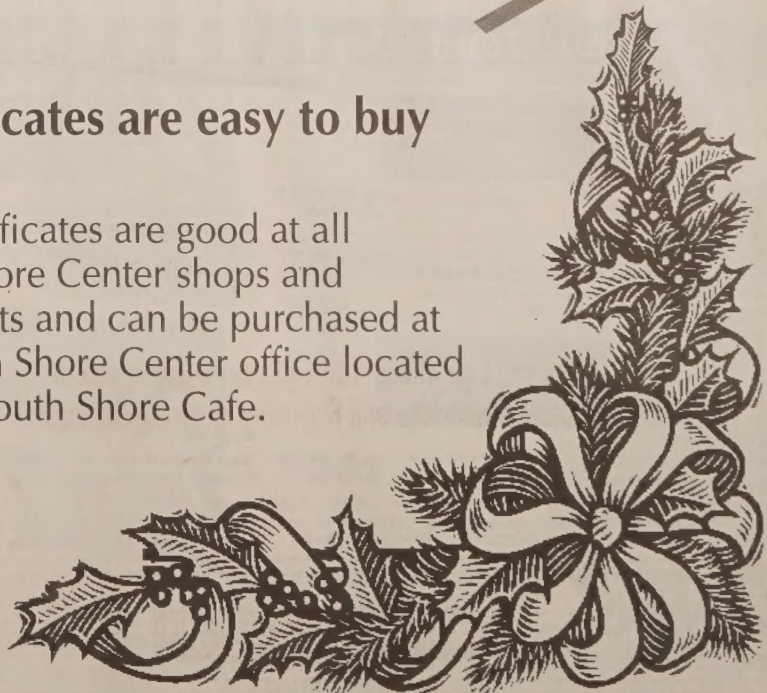
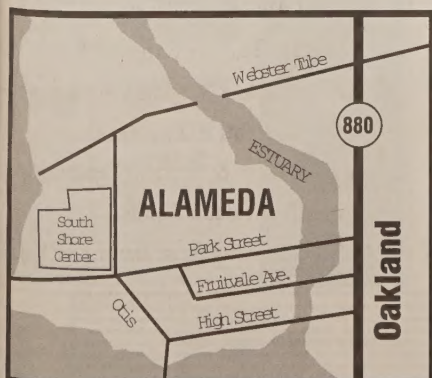
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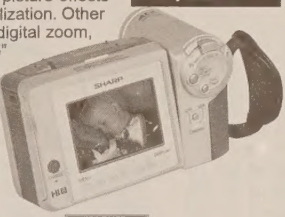
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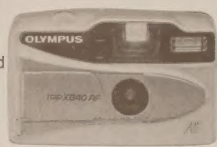
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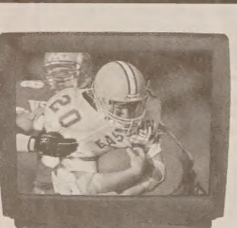


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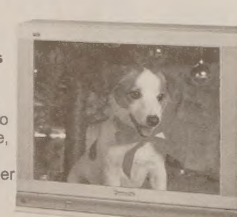


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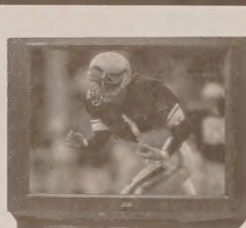
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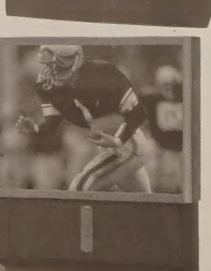


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MIKE NOBREGO of El Cerrito, right, and Jimmy Rampoli carry a tree for Patty Menasco of Orinda

Trees

OM PAGE A1

ledge hammer with which he uses to secure the temporary wooden tree stands.

The lively conversation is punctuated with comments from their 20-year-old counterpart. "Can you believe this guy?" remarks Lafayette resident David Peacock.

The pair both have horticulture backgrounds. Hank worked for the Oakland Parks Department and was responsible for caring for the lauded sandalwood garden at Lake Mer-

ritt. Jimmy was in charge of pruning and spraying the city's street trees in Richmond.

The story goes that they met at a crab feed and ended up working together at a tree lot in Concord's Park N Shop.

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist to do this job," Jimmy remarks.

"Oh yes, you do," counters Hank.

The Renno family has operated the tree lot on the corner of Glenside Drive and St. Mary's Road in Lafayette for seven years. The Noble and Douglas firs are grown in Oregon by Sue Renno's father, who fells them the day before they are shipped.

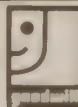
The universally popular, less expensive Douglas is more fragrant, and half the price of the Noble and takes three years to grow, she explains. The Noble fir is the most popular tree in the Bay Area but it takes nine years to reach maturity and is more scarce.

Sue recommends that customers pour a can of classic Coca-Cola in the first container of water, as its sugar and chemical content provides a good tree preservative. "And, not a diet," she is quick to point out.

"It's kind of a quirky business. It only lasts a month," she shares.

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Bella Musica: SONGS TO PEACE

Bella Musica's fall season concerts will be this Saturday 12/16/00, 8:00pm and Sunday 12/17/00 at 4:00pm our concert home, St. Joseph The Worker Church at 1640 Addison Street in Berkeley. This lovely large church is wheelchair accessible. The program is titled SONGS TO PEACE, and features all of Part I and excerpts from Part II of Handel's MESSIAH. Other songs range through the centuries, from Rossi, and Bach, to Bernstein, Barber and Thompson. Bella will also be presenting the West Coast Premiere of "Alleluia Vidimus Stellam" by our composer-residence, Ann Callaway.

Bella Musica's long awaited new CD, Brahms Piano Concerto #1 in D Minor, is ready to be released and will be available for purchase this week and at the concerts. This CD was recorded live in June of 1999 featuring the wonderfully gifted Mr. Matthew Laurence Edwards, pianist with the Bella Musica Orchestra. Mr. Edwards performs frequently for Old First Concerts and other venues

throughout the Bay Area.

Bella Musica's spring program will be titled ISN'T IT ROMANTIC? This rehearsal session which starts on January 9th, will be focusing on the theme of romance and love through the ages. The music will cover a wide range of composers and allows individuals from the chorus to be featured as soloists for the concerts. We are always looking for more singers to join us. So if you'd like the chance to be a featured soloist or enjoy singing challenging

choral music, come and audition for the chorus.

Bella Musica is a proud affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society, and is a community based chorus and orchestra dedicated to enriching audiences' appreciation for classical music, both contemporary and historical. We celebrate our 5 year anniversary with this concert series under the baton of founding conductor and music director Arlene Sagan. Come celebrate the season!



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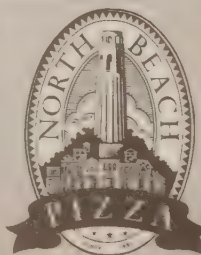
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New

FROM PAGE A1

"We have a \$1 million deficit on playing fields," he said, referring to the \$2 million an outside contractor estimated it would cost to renovate Dowling Field if the city buys it.

"We're very short on park space," he added.

The city may be miles away from resolving the balance between land and money, but Maris took the opportunity to announce a new way of raising money.

"I'd like to establish a fund for competition awards, like the Arts Committee (has done), where the city can contribute to some things that are good for our community," he said.

He also pointed to state and federal grants and a new parcel tax as possible sources of income.

The city may be a more patriotic place with Maris as mayor. Included in his wishlist is a plan to create ceremonies for Memorial Day and Vet-

erans Day, accompanied by the music of local bands.

Ray Anderson, one of the city's more regular attendees of council meetings, observed from his usual spot in the back row.

After listening to Maris' endless list of past and future development projects, his prognosis was optimistic: "All the vision's going to start coming into place. I think they're going to do great."

Still, the evening was more or a social than political event for the city's newcomers, offering them a chance to introduce family members and mingle.

Both will have to wait until January to see how the typical council meeting plays out.

Longtime activist Jewel Okawachi, who filled the council's four-year seat vacated by Robert Good, is sure to take an interest in youth issues. The former PTA member and Albany Education Foundation president says she wants to continue working with UC Berkeley to secure land for a playing field, for one thing.

She also claims an interest in economic development, saying, "I would like to fill what empty storefronts we have."

Mario DiPrisco, who brings financial experience to the two-year interim seat, points to expanding business opportunities on Solano Avenue as a main focus.

He has also said he wants to build on existing youth organizations and community policing.

Many present echoed feelings of optimism following the ceremony.

"I think the number of people here reflect the good wishes and support of the decision-makers," said former school board member Dianne McNenny.

Former mayor Ruth Ganong, who supported efforts to elect DiPrisco, offered a bit of advice for Maris: "It will take a lot of hard work on his part, but he'll have the city behind him."

Good, who missed hardly a meeting during his eight years in office, ducked out early, while others stayed to socialize over brownies.

"My work is done here," he said.

Albany moves on drainage for Memorial Park

By Kate Darby Rauch
TIMES STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — The costs of upgrading Memorial Park keep creeping up, but the City Council remains determined to spend what it takes to get the job done, or as much of the job that dollars can buy.

At its meeting last week the council gave the green light to park designers to expand the scope of drainage work, which could add as much as \$200,000 to the overall project costs, bringing the total to around \$650,00, said Mayor John Ely.

This is a rough estimate. Over the next few weeks designers will evaluate the added work, bringing the cost back to the council for approval.

"We're looking at a comprehensive plan to make sure we have adequate drainage so we don't have to tear it up in two years," Ely said.

The park, a 6.5-acre rectangle of greenery between Portland and Carmel avenues, near Albany High School, is notorious for turning into a soggy muck in the rainy season, including flooded lot lots that take days to drain.

Council members hope spending the extra money for drainage work will put an end to these problems. They agreed Monday to pay park de-

signers, The Beals Group Inc., additional \$25,000 to tackle the drainage plan.

However, the plan does not cover drainage for the playing field or tennis court area, a concern raised by Vice Mayor Allan Maris, who said he is "concerned about drainage for the ball field," he said.

Assistant city administrator Ann Ritzma said future plans to implement an overall drainage system were taken into consideration.

"We'll make sure the area is large enough so that other areas will be easily added to the system," said Ritzma.

Renovating Memorial Park, the city's main residential public space featuring holiday celebrations in addition to regular day use, has long been goal of the city.

The city a few years ago approved a five-year park upgrade plan, compiled with input from a residents' group. The plan outlines goals, with work expected to be completed in phases.

Initially, the city approved about \$180,000 to get started on the project, money that was mostly going to go for new play equipment.

That amount was increased to about \$250,000 last year, as the scope of work grew, along with construction costs.

The current plan... causes only one... park, along with... for replacing... the new...
At last week... man Robert... before... Staff writer... tributed to...

Council agency, committee appointments

New Albany Mayor Allan Maris announced the following assignments for council members on Tuesday.

County and Regional Bodies

Alameda County Mayors Conference — Maris/Thomsen
Congestion Management Agency — Thomsen/Maris
Library Advisory Committee — Ely
Association of Bay Area Governments — DiPrisco/Okawachi
League of Calif. Cities (East Bay) — Maris/Ely
Associated Community Action Program — DiPrisco
Waste Management Authority — Thomsen/Okawachi
Alameda County Housing Authority — Feiner/Okawachi

Committees

School 2X2 Committee — Maris/Thomsen
Youth Task Force — Okawachi
Prevention Council — DiPrisco
Cable Television Committee — DiPrisco
Waste Management Committee — Thomsen/Okawachi
Pension Board — Maris/Okawachi

Selection

FROM PAGE A1

The city is seeking someone with significant budget experience, as well as a background in city administration, as well as a knack for dealing with the public.

"A jack of all trades — the city administrator wears a lot of hats," said Ely.

Possibly too many, according to Good.

He cited too much power in the city administrator's hands as having a weakening effect in other areas.

"Before Daren, it was a little more laid back. If you wanted to talk to a department head, you just did it," he said. "Daren insisted that all lines go through him, which limited the abilities of the council."

According to Fields, the most difficult aspect of his job was maintaining quality services on a shoe-string budget. After he gave notice, he pointed to a lack of financial resources as the only downfall.

That fact could also have an effect on who ultimately gets hired.

"It's a tough market out there right now," said Ely. "I hope we get a good fit."

Raise

FROM PAGE A1

to the outcome of an appeal process that could drag on for months.

Trustee Glen Price, said the school board wanted to give employees "the largest possible increase we could while being fiscally responsible."

"As the audit evolved, it became clearer to a lot of us that there was a possibility that this was not going to be resolved in short term," he said. "It appeared to the board not to be a wise thing to do."

Union and district negotiators also agreed to move back the transfer schedule for administrators and teachers. They hope to finish three days after the school year ends, so new recruits can be told where they would

Board

FROM PAGE A1

collecting 60 signatures.

"The bottom line is those people have to run for re-election. We will unseat them."

But Marsha Skinner, school board president, said she believes allowing an hour of public comment was fair, adding that several speakers went well over the board's three-minute time limit.

Tuesday's agenda had several items that needed immediate attention and couldn't wait until after the holiday break, which is why the board called a special meeting in another room, Skinner said.

She said she consulted the Brown Act — a state law that requires elected officials to hold meetings in

public — and believes the move was permissible under a provision for disorderly conduct.

"We had definite audience disruption. The meeting clearly didn't come to order," Skinner said. "We had items that needed to be acted on last night."

The board voted 4 to 1 to move to the special meeting, with trustee Mary Wallman opposed.

David Greene, an attorney and executive director of the First Amendment Project, said the Brown Act allows boards to clear the room of disorderly people in order to continue the session. But Greene said he had never heard of a situation where a board reconvenes in a separate room too small to hold a crowd.

The district and the Albany Teachers Association reached a stalemate in salary negotiations last week when the school board rejected a tentative deal that would have given teachers a 10 percent raise.

After initially agreeing to the deal district negotiators backed away, saying they had miscalculated the impact on the budget. A 10 percent raise would sink the district \$2.1 million into the red by the second year, they said.

Police

FROM PAGE A2

enue reported that during the night thieves broke into her silver '84 Honda Civic and stole items. There were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of Dec. 9 a resident on the 400 block of Stannage Avenue reported that thieves had stolen his steel blue 21-speed bike from his locked garage. There were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of Dec. 10 a resident on the 1200 block of Brighton Avenue reported that during the night thieves had stolen her tan '83 Toyota Corolla. There were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of Dec. 10 a

resident on the 800 block of Masonic Avenue reported that thieves had prowled the carport and rear yard of his apartment building. They also smashed the window on his gray Volvo and stole items from inside. There were no witnesses.

During the week of Dec. 4 Albany officers towed one vehicle, responded to 11 false alarms, attended to five lost or deceased animals, and assisted four people who were locked out of their house or car. In the domestic arena officers responded to one domestic dispute, 11 civil disturbances and 82 civil assists. Officers stopped 85 cars and/or pedestrians issuing 45 citations and 40 warnings. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to 13 medical emergencies.

Manager

FROM PAGE A1

tunity to see the complete person, not just how the person answered prepared questions in an interview," Westman said.

The council is also planning a subcommittee of two councilmembers who will visit the city where the selected finalist is currently working.


Westman was asked about the possibility of making the names of two or three semi-finalists public and seeking public input for the final selection. "Certainly that's always a

possibility, but unfortunately I think that in this day and time, greatly eliminates a number of people from applying," Westman said.

"All of these applicants are going to be people who are working in other cities. If you have a public process like that, those people have to be prepared to have told their city that they're leaving and looking for another job."

Westman said the new permanent city manager should probably be on-board by late February or early March, 2001.

Westman became interim city manager last August after longtime city manager Gary Pokorny retired.



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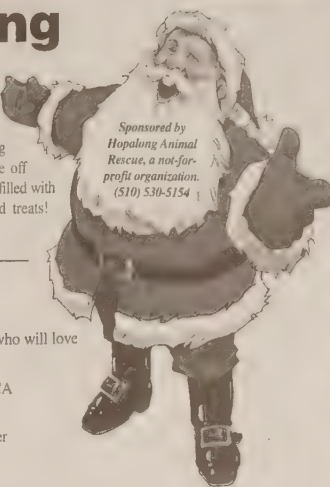
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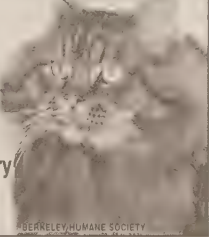


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During this holiday season, you will be able to adopt a pet on Solano Ave. in Albany.

Hosted by the new Sweet Potatoes Children's Clothing store, the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society's Outreach Adoption Unit will occupy 1226 Solano Ave. (at Talbot) on Friday and Saturday, December 15th and 16th, 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. with animals who will be shown in a holiday setting. After two days of store-

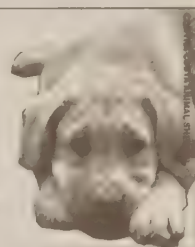
front adoption, the humane society will have it's annual "Paws With Santa" fundraiser on Sunday, December 17th. The animal's real santa will be available from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. to pose with your pets. All species are welcome and must be appropriately contained on leash or in carriers.

The Berkeley East Bay Humane Society information number for this event is (510) 845-7735, ext 22

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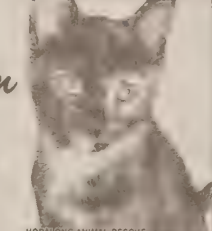


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Real Estate & Home

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

December 15, 2000

Section B

Bobbie Reid highlights activities in the Realtor community [B6]

Open Home Guide Check out the East Bay real estate scene [B9]



L.J. JENNINGS, left, outgoing OAR president passes the gavel to the association's 2001 president, John Holmgren.

Oakland Realtors honor Holmgren

By Bobbie Reid

CORRESPONDENT

The Oakland Association of Realtors held its 97th Annual Inaugural honoring John Holmgren as the new 2001 President. The luncheon took place at the Claremont Spa & Resort in Oakland. Platinum sponsor for the inaugural was Fidelity National Title Company. Outgoing president, L.J. Jennings of Jetstream Mortgage, hosted the festivities.

Holmgren is with Holmgren & Associates, an Oakland mortgage company. "My goal for this year, will be bringing

our membership closer together, said Holmgren. "In addition, I will be working with proactive Realtors to help address the growing need for more affordable housing in this area."

Outstanding achievement

Each year, OAR presents three special awards for outstanding achievement. This year the association honored:

■ Lee Jacobson of Pacific Union of the Women's Council of Realtors with the Patty Bennett award;

■ Helen Nicholas, CRS of LaSalle

Properties was recognized as Realtor of the Year and

■ Kevin Williams of First American Title was named Affiliate of the Year.

WCR represented

Maxine Jennings, the 2001 National Women's Council of Realtors president and Gary Thomas, the 2001 California Association of Realtors president attended. Thomas conducted the installation ceremony and administered the oath of office. For more on the Oakland Association of Realtors call 510-836-3000.

Do those home protection plans really make sense?

When something malfunctions in your home, wouldn't it be wonderful if you could pick up the phone, request a service call, pay a nominal service charge and have the problem fixed. In theory, this is how a home protection plan works. A home protection plan—also called a home warranty—is an insurance policy that insures homeowners against defects in the major systems of their home.

Precisely what is covered will vary from one company to the next. Most policies cover the heating, plumbing and electrical systems as well as built-in appliances like the stove, dishwasher and garbage disposal.

Some companies will cover movable appliances like the refrigerator, washer and dryer for an extra charge. And some

Real Estate Forum



By Dian Hymer

quits working the day after closing. Depending on the terms of the purchase agreement, the seller may be responsible for replacing the water heater.

A home protection plan — also called a home warranty — is a policy that insures homeowners against defects in the major systems of their home.

policies even include roof coverage — if you pay an additional fee. Policy terms are usually for one year and they are renewable.

The annual cost of a policy varies but you might expect to pay about \$300 for a moderate-size home. Protection plans are available for both single family residences and condominiums. The plans are offered in most states.

Home protection plans are popular in the home sale industry because they provide a relatively inexpensive way to take care of home defects that develop soon after the home sale closes.

For example, let's say the water heater

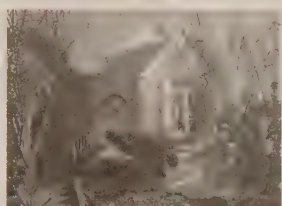
A new hot water heater can cost several hundred dollars. However, if there is a home protection plan in place at closing, the hot water heater will probably be replaced for the nominal cost of a service charge. Home warranty service charges vary but they are often in the range of \$30-35 per call.

Some sellers offer to pay for a home protection plan to cover the home for the buyer for one year. If problems arise during that year, the buyers simply call the warranty company and pay the service charge.

see HYMER on page B2



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Intercom system could solve communication problems

By Heather Newman
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Telling someone he or she has a phone call has become a nuisance. If you live in an old house, you're reduced to yelling through decades-old layers of heavy plaster just to be heard in another room.

If you live in a new home, chances are it's big enough to make hollering from one end to another a chore.

The solution: a home intercom system. New intercoms sound better and have more features than ever. They typically come in three styles: wireless, those that use telephones or telephone lines, and the old-fashioned wired kind.

"As an industry, the demand is up," says Steve Hayes, president of the Custom Electronic Design & Installation Association. His Falmouth, Maine-based Custom Electronics installs home electronic systems worldwide.

"People are coming along with the technology more than they have in the past, and the market is expanding. My wife and I just installed a phone-based intercom system this year, and we love it."

Joani Lesser and her husband had a phone-based intercom system installed in their West Bloomfield, Mich., home almost 10 years ago and have been updating it since.

"I'm downstairs and the phone rings and I can hit 'intercom' and 'library' and say, 'It's for you,'" says Lesser, a travel agent. "We can answer the door through the phones. It makes our lives easier."

Jeffrey Golding, president of Electronic Connections, a company that installs home electronic wiring, says 85 percent of the new homes he wires get intercom systems.

He gets plenty of service requests from owners of older homes, too, including one 90-year-old house in Birmingham, Mich., that's getting an intercom system in a complete rewiring that includes 5 miles of fiber-optic cable.

He sells only the phone-based intercom systems, preferring a system by Panasonic that combines paging, intercom, doorbell and normal phone functions. The sound quality is better than older direct-wired systems, he says, and it doesn't require as much fussing with switches and settings as the old systems.

"Dad would have to get up from his seat, and human nature being what it is, once he was up, he would just yell up at the kids to stop making so much noise, rather than using the intercom," Golding says.

Most of today's systems include hands-free functions, allowing people to respond to calls without walking to a unit. Home intercoms can be handy devices. For example:

A parent is in the kitchen, fixing schoolkids' lunches, Golding says. All of a sudden, a child appears in the doorway wanting to know where his shoes are. The parent has to interrupt what he or she is doing to point out the shoes and maybe even to put them on.

Now picture the same scenario

with a home intercom, he says. The child calls the parent in the kitchen, and the parent, without having to leave the sandwiches, says the shoes are in the hallway where the youngster left them the night before.

"It's never having to break your stride, never having to interrupt what you're doing," he says.

Depending on the type of system, home owners can spend \$30 to \$3,000 on a home network. At the low end are systems sold at home improvement centers that use the house's existing electrical wiring. They're easy to install and inexpensive, making them a popular choice.

They have a few drawbacks, however. They aren't able to handle phone functions, so fancy features like determining which rooms' phones should ring for which lines will always be beyond them. They don't have the sound quality of the more expensive systems. And their signals can interfere with X10 devices. (X10 is the name for the set of rules used by home automation devices to talk with each other. Most popular systems that allow homeowners to control everything from house lights to door locks, from a computer or remote control use X10 protocols.) If someone is using a wireless intercom, depending on the system, it can prevent those X10 devices from working.

Traditional wired systems don't have that drawback, they use their own phone-style wire. They tend to be in the middle of the price range, with fully featured systems consisting of a couple of units running \$100 and more. However, they don't interface with the phones, meaning you have to move to a wall panel to talk with another unit.

A fancy phone-based system can cost \$3,000 to install, and they generally use a type of wire called Category 5 or Category 6 that prevents interference and handles more information than a typical phone wire.

For Electronic Connections customers, that price includes all the details, right down to programming the speed dials and printing labels that explain what each button connects you to. Most audiovisual contractors also will install intercom systems as part of their wiring packages.

The price varies depending on the number of phone lines and units. Each phone can cost hundreds of dollars. "We have phones all over the house," Lesser says, including ones on either side of the bed, either side of the desk in the office and even in the master bath. They plan to move in a year, and originally discussed taking all the phones with them to save the expense of installing them



THE WOMEN'S COUNCIL OF REALTORS National President, Maxine Jennings, left, administers the oath of office to the new WCR East Bay Chapter President Denise Smith

East Bay Women's Council of Realtors hosts 2001 inaugural

■ Outgoing president Denise Sonnier of California Home Loans passes the gavel to 2001 president Denise Smith, broker-owner of Royal Realtors and Loan Services.

By Bobbie Reid
CORRESPONDENT

Live music kicked off the 2001 Inaugural of the East Bay Chapter of the Women's Council of Realtors (WCR). Outgoing President Denise Sonnier of California Home Loans passed the gavel to incoming President Denise Smith.

Master of Ceremonies for the event, sponsored by First American Title was L.J. Jennings, 2000 president of the Oakland Association of Realtors.

The luncheon took place at Jack's Restaurant in Oakland's Jack London Square. WCR National President Maxine Jennings of Coldwell Banker administered the oath of office to Smith and the other new officers.

Along with Smith, the new officers include

- vice-president Ramona Chang of Chang & Hardeman
- treasurer Dorie Gallinatti of Atkinson & Gallinatti and
- Frankie Hartwell of Midnight Appraisals.

Smith is the broker/owner of Royal Realtors and Loan Services. After many years in the mortgage and real estate industries, she has achieved success as a multi-million dollar producer. Smith serves as a director for the Oakland Association of Realtors and a board member for Junior Achievement.

She also serves as president of the Dare to Dream Foundation, a nonprofit organization that helps to provide affordable housing.

Smith's first act as president, will be to move the Chapter's monthly meeting back to Oakland, providing a more central location for all its northern Alameda County members.

"My job," said Smith, "will be to help all our members build better

My job will be to help all our members build better business relationships in the industry.

business relationships in the industry.

The East Bay Chapter of the Women's Council of Realtors, a professional organization of members, formerly met at 5100 Alameda.

WCR visit the organization at www.wcr.org.

Bobbie Reid is a real estate columnist. She has been writing about the real estate industry since 1988.

Be kind to the environment, recycle this newspaper

Hymer

FROM PAGE B1

The warranty company pays for the repair or replacement. Be sure to read the policy carefully because there are exclusions from coverage. For example, pre-existing conditions are not usually covered. So if the furnace hasn't worked properly for years, it probably won't be covered by the buyer's home protection plan. Also, there are limitations on coverage. For instance, some policies offer roof coverage, but only up to \$1,000 of work.

Seller coverage is also available to cover the home during the listing and sale period. Seller coverage works the same as buyer coverage except that there are usually more limitations on the coverage. For example, the furnace is usually covered under both buyer and seller coverage. But, the amount of coverage offered under seller coverage is often

less than the amount that's available to the buyer if the furnace breaks down after closing.

One seller who had signed up for seller coverage was able to have some of the defects that were discovered during the buyer's inspections fixed by the home protection plan company for the cost of a service charge. This was a great deal for the seller because it saved him money and he didn't have to pay the policy premium until closing.

Seller coverage is usually charged by the day. The cost varies, but it can run about 75 to 85 cents a day. If the seller of a home you're buying does not offer to pay for a home protection plan, you can pay for one. Be sure to order it before the closing date.

Dian Hymer is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Starting Out, The Complete Home Buyer's Guide." Available in book stores or from

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The first thing you must do is measure. Knowing the height, width and depth of the area where you place your tree is important. Forcing a tree against a wall can result in a big mess. Most trees produce an abundance of sticky, hard-to-clean sap.

Consider sap drippings when deciding on how much protection to place on carpets and other adjacent floor coverings.

You might not need to get a perfectly shaped tree that is beautifully trimmed and full all the way around. If you intend to place your tree against a wall, consider purchasing one with



MORRIS & JAMES CAREY
On the House

one flat side. It will not only save pruning time and energy, but possibly money as well.

Tree tips

■ If you want a tree with a strong scent, look for white fir, Fraser fir or balsam fir. If allergies are a problem, you might want to stick with an Eastern white pine (a species with a milder aroma).

■ Some trees are known for retaining their needles through the holiday season. The Colorado

see TREE on page B6

Some common Christmas trees



Austrian pine
Has dark green needles. 4 to 6 inches long, with symmetrical shape. Retains needles well.

Red pine
Needles grow in clusters of two (5 to 7 inches) and have excellent retention.

Scotch pine
Most popular tree with stiff needles. Needle retention excellent and holds ornaments well.

White pine
Branches are horizontal and dense. Needles grow in a bundle of five. Needle retention is excellent.

Balsam fir
Dark green tree with flat short needles. Needle retention is very good.

Douglas fir
Branches grow horizontally from trunk. Needles are flat and short and retention is very good to excellent.

Fraser fir
Tree has pleasant odor and the limbs are well spaced and sturdy. It has short deep green needles with excellent needle retention.

Noble fir
Short stiff branches spaced far apart. Good for displaying tree decorations. Silvery needles are short and curved upward. Has good needle retention.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Long ago, not so far away

A return to column Number 264 (first published Nov. 18, 1998)

When we were girls growing up in Oakland, my friend Barbara and I spent a lot of time together. We lived just a few houses from one another on Coolidge Avenue in similar houses and circumstances, but at Barbara's house was some exotic unknown to me anywhere else.

For one thing, her parents had arrived from Germany not long before Barbara and her sister were born. They frequently spoke German and referred to things by their German names, cooked German foods, and did many everyday things differently — in German ways, I suppose.

Everyone in the family worked very hard. Like my own father, Barbara's father went off to work every day, but he also worked at home preparing income taxes for clients, plus he sold by mail order little novelties such as red-wood burls.

Unlike my own mother or the mothers of other friends, Barbara's mother had a job too, as a nurse at an "old folks" home. Barbara and her older sister, Irene, did their part: they tended the family chickens (I knew no one else who had chickens), weeded and watered the vegetable garden and rolling green lawn, and they studied hard and got excellent grades.

On school mornings, I would stop by to get Barbara to walk with her to school. The house smelled of whole wheat toast and soft boiled eggs that Barbara's mother had cooked. At every table place was an egg cup and a knife for cracking the top of the eggs off in a stoke, something I greatly enjoyed watching. The clock on the breakfast room wall was set ten minutes fast because Irene said (and she was exasperated that she had to explain to me something so plain), it was the only way she could get anywhere on time.

The girls rushed to make sandwiches, packed them with apples in lunch boxes, then laced up their shoes. Jostling one another, they reached for coats and scarves from their closet. In the bedroom they shared, neatly made up twin beds were pushed against the side walls. The girls' dolls lay on the chenille spreads. In the aisle between, on the end wall, a small desk and chair just fit, and opposite these was a dresser with a mirror hanging above it.

Each girl had use of half the dresser drawers and half the dresser top but Irene frequently complained that her portion was inadequate. The dresser was covered with an embroidered dresser

scarf and an array of each girl's hairbrush, comb, and barrettes, small bottles of perfume, a jewelry box and a hand mirror.

Tucked into the edges of the wall mirror were friends' school exchange photos, ticket stubs, and church programs.

The one small closet in the room contained the sisters' shoes, skates, coats, board games, and their train cases. I had a train case too, and on occasion in summer when we were allowed to go to the swimming pool at Dimond Park, Barbara and I packed them with swimsuits, rubber swim caps and towels.

We'd lay out our towels in the sun at the edge of the pool and bake our bodies hoping for tawny tans. We'd study our faces in the mirrors in our train case lids for imperfections, sigh, change clothes and return home.

Often on hot summer days, Barbara's family ate dinner in their backyard dining "room." At my house, we did roast "weenies" outside occasionally, but even that was rare. At Barbara's outside the kitchen, they had poured a concrete slab and built sides and roof of open trellising. Grape vines grew over the whole. It was Barbara's job to set the table with silverware, tablecloth, cloth napkins (and always napkin rings) and to carry the large ceramic pitcher of iced tea and the tray of cheese and fruit to the table.

In the basement of Barbara's house, next to the garage, was a small, roughly finished room with a piano and a Victrola where Barbara and I, anxious to stay out of Irene's hair, often spent time after school. Barbara was studying violin which I was interested in learn-

ing, and she would patiently show me the fingering, the bowing, and how to apply rosin to the bow strings. Or we would play records and sing and dance.

Once we entered the school talent contest and spent weeks rehearsing a lip synch version of "Side by Side". Another time we worked up a little Christmas skit in which we were green-clad elves, and presented it to the residents at the home where Barbara's mother worked.

When we were in seventh grade, our school had a paper drive to raise money. Prizes were offered for collecting certain poundages of newspapers. Barbara and I decided that we could together collect a ton of paper. Everyday after school and on Saturdays we pulled a wagon from door to door in our neighborhood asking for papers. We pulled them home to Barbara's garage, tied them in bundles with twine, put them back into the wagon and hauled them to school. It took a lot, but we laughed a lot, had fun doing it, and we did receive blue ribbons stamped in gold "One Ton". I think I still have mine.

At Christmas time at Barbara's a large bowl of mixed nuts in the shell appeared each year in the living room, several of which were unfamiliar to me. I remember using their heavy metal nutcracker to open hazel and Brazil nuts. They also offered large ginger cookies with colored paper Santas glued with frosting to the tops.

The girls' stockings were hung from the mantel, and when filled, always contained an orange. The Christmas tree was placed in front of the large front window, decorated with ribbed glass, pointy-end

Two Experiences



By Tarpo and Talbert

lights in green, red, white, blue and golden yellow. There was a silver and pink paper angel on top and spun glass angel hair was swirled between the branches. You had to be careful not to get the glass in your fingers. The final decoration was meticulously draped, silvery tinsel, hung strand by single strand from every branch tip.

Around the bottom of the tree was my most favorite of the family's possessions: a miniature village sparkly with "snow" and a tiny white fence laid on a white sheet and sprinkled with mica flakes.

Years later at our 25th high school reunion, when I saw Barbara again, I remembered that village and asked her if she still had it. She could barely remember it, she said, and was amazed that I did. She was sure that it had vanished long years before.

Anet Tarpo and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patanet@lmi.net or by phone at 510-653-2050

For the online mortgage shopper

FANNIE MAE

Planning to shop online for a mortgage? Here are some tips:

- Research an online lender the same way you would a traditional bank. Read the contents in the "About" box, which usually contains more information on the company and its policies.
- Get familiar with the company's online privacy and security policies, including how they use the information collected about you.
- Make sure that you also can contact an online lender easily by telephone at any time during the mortgage process.
- Understand the level of offline support available and what recourse is available if you have questions or issues.



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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Warmest Wishes for the Holidays

Twish to thank my family, clients and friends for honored friendships and treasured relationships. May all the gentle joys of this season bring you warmth and sunshine now and throughout the New Year.



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971 Longridge Road
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I am pleased to announce that I recently represented the sellers in the sale of these charming Crocker Highlands homes.



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Adaptive reuse in the Bay Area

Part one of two parts
The term adaptive reuse has received quite a workout in the media in recent years. From feature articles in Time and Newsweek magazines, to news stories in major metropolitan papers, a lot of coverage has been given to prominent architectural landmarks that have undergone adaptive reuse programs. Among such projects are a number of outstanding historic structures in the Bay Area, which I will describe in this two-part series.

But first, just exactly what is adaptive reuse? This term first appeared in the 1970s, and was coined by architects and historic preservationists to describe a much needed new solution to the problem of obsolete old buildings. Even when a historic structure or complex is deemed by government officials to be worthy of preservation, it often cannot be used for its original purpose anymore.

These buildings may have had owners who went out of business, or

the functions they once served are no longer economically viable. Sometimes the original purpose of such structures is still needed, but the facilities are now obsolete, or the structural components of the building are unsafe by today's standards.

When this type of "functional obsolescence" exists in a particular structure, the only way to save it as a functioning resource is either to change the original purpose the building serves, or upgrade it to current standards. This is what is meant by adaptive reuse. Thus, train stations are sometimes converted into art museums, (as in the case of the Musée d'Orsay in Paris) or old movie houses are adapted into performing arts centers, (as was done with the Paramount Movie Theater in downtown Oakland).

One of the largest and most important adaptive reuse projects in the Bay Area in recent years is just now nearing completion. Hobart Hall is an official Berkeley City Landmark,

at 2600 Dwight Way at Bowditch Street. It was designed in 1918 by Julia Morgan, and construction was completed in 1920. This dignified red brick building has housed the American Baptist Seminary of the West since it opened.

Stylistically, Hobart Hall is a superb example of a late English Tudor style academic building, such as those that were built in the late 1500s in Cambridge or Oxford. It has Gothic arched doorways, pointed tracery along much of its four story facade, a steeply hipped roofline, and leaded casement windows. There is also an adjacent cloister (the only enclosed cloister in Berkeley) which was designed by Walter Ratcliff some years later.

In the late 1990s, the Baptist Seminary decided that it needed to upgrade its facilities to meet the needs of a modern school of theology in the high tech era. The directors decided to stay in Hobart Hall, and do the necessary remodeling. The ar-

Owning A Piece of History



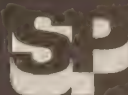
By Mark A. Wilson

chitectural legacy of this venerable structure made it essential that as much of its original exterior be saved as possible.

The recently formed Berkeley architecture, engineering, and construction firm of Integrated Structures was chosen to carry out this project. There were three goals in doing an adaptive reuse project for Hobart Hall. The president of the Baptist Seminary asked Gary Black, who is a Principal Partner at Integrated Structures, to do an analysis of these

see WILSON on page B6

When functional obsolescence exists in a structure, the only way to save it as a functioning resource is either to change its original purpose, or upgrade it to current standards. This is adaptive reuse.



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3/2 Each duplex unit, rare, spacious, total for pending \$585,000
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6042 Manchester Drive \$2,375,000
This gorgeous view home has recently been renovated with new state of the art amenities and fabulous sunny garden. 4BR/3.5BA + au pair. John Karnay



6070 Contra Costa Road \$1,679,000
A contemporary interpretation of a traditional Craftsman. This elegant 4BR/3BA masterpiece offers the perfect setting for holiday entertaining. Laurel Strand



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Rockridge Mediterranean \$1,295,000
Wonderful architectural details: arched windows, doors & original wrought iron fixtures. Panoramic Bay view, 6BR/4BA, circular drive. Elizabeth Dickson & Jean Simmons
New Montclair Home \$1,249,000
Bay view home w/chef's kitchen, adjacent family room, French doors to terrace, BR/office on main, master retreat with fireplace. Kurt Buchholz
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New Tuscan Retreat. 4BR/3BA, wine cellar, master suite, hand plastered walls, hardwood floors. Elegant finishes throughout. Chef's kitchen. Cherie Curliano

7400 Woodrow Drive \$949,000
Architectural & dramatic, this spacious new Montclair home features 4BR/3BA incl. Master retreat. Chef's kitchen/family room, formal dining room, hardwood floors, covered patios. Susanne Paul



1024 Winsor Avenue New Listing \$499,000
Charming updated colonial. 2+BR/1.5BA, new kitchen & new baths, spacious living room and formal dining room, level yard, garage & basement. Judy Rankankan

By Appointment



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Spacious Montclair home with level garden, canyon views, kitchen/family room, 4BR/3BA, bonus room and terrific space. Elizabeth Dickson
Piedmont Pines New Listing \$679,000
Charming Piedmont Pines home with 3+BR/3BA, paneled rumpus, formal living and dining rooms, level gardens & great location. Elizabeth Dickson
Rockridge Craftsman New Listing \$649,000
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4391 Terrabella Place \$439,000
Spacious 3BR/2.5BA, 1725 sq. ft. home. Large back yard w/brick patio, mature trees and filtered view. Large living room w/fireplace, formal dining area. Sherry Benninger



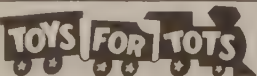
3916 Patterson Avenue \$339,000
A great home with a large level yard including fruit trees, 2BR/1BA, updated throughout. Refinished hardwood floors, living room w/ fireplace, formal dining room & eat-in kitchen. Kurt Buchholz



1289 Brighton Ave., Albany \$325,000
Great potential in a convenient Albany location close to the new Albany middle & high schools. Approx. 4500 sq. ft lot. Nice yard & 2-car garage. Ed Kuo



Heritage's Finest New Listing \$429,000
Three bedrooms including master suite, 2.5BA, living room w/high ceilings, open floor plan, kitchen/family room combination. Great gardens. Kurt Buchholz
Albany Bungalow New Listing \$375,000
Covered Bungalow style home w/built-ins, high ceilings, & fireplace. Country kitchen. Private garden. Garage w/ studio potential. 2BR/1BA. Chris Cohn
Berkeley New Listing \$342,000
Award-quality kitchen w/granite counters, eating bar & sub-zero refrigerator. Open floor plan. Garden w/entertainment decks & lush greenery. 3BR/1+BA. Chris Cohn
Potential Abounds New Listing \$339,000
Craftsman, waiting to be restored to its original charm. Architectural details, spacious formal rooms, 4BR/1.5BA, large kitchen. Great area. Bettina Balestrieri



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Wilson

FROM PAGE B5

three needs in late 1998. They were: (1) a seismic retrofit for the building; (2) a restoration of the original exterior; and (3) a rehab and upgrade of the interior to accommodate high tech equipment for offices and classrooms.

The budget for this substantial project was set at \$3,000,000, and it will be completed within this budget, and on time in March of 2001, according to Gary Black. The second and third floors are already completed and are now occupied.

The first and fourth floors, and the elevator, are now being completed. As a full professor of structural engineering at UC Berkeley since 1990, Professor Black has done studies and consulting work on a number of similar types of rehab and retrofit projects.

Two of the biggest challenges faced by Integrated Structures, says Mr. Black, were to get a sufficient amount of light into the rooms, and to cut down on the noise levels from Dwight Way. "As you can imagine,"

he told me, "the amount of noise coming off of Dwight Way has increased many fold since 1920. Also, at that time, it was acceptable to have interior light levels of only 15 foot candles. Today, the standard is 100 foot candles."

"We didn't want to blast the interiors of every room with artificial light by turning up the electric wattage," Black explained. "And we couldn't alter the size or number of the windows, since we had to maintain the historic integrity of the exterior. So we had to use brighter colors on some of the interior spaces than was here originally, which meant painting over some of the woodwork."

And as for the acoustical considerations, Integrated Structures devised a perfect solution which cut down the outside noise to a minimum, while preserving the architectural character of the original facade. A layer of laminated glass one half inch thick was applied to the surface of the window glass, and then a special type of lead tape was adhered to all of the lead seams.

The seismic retrofit presented a different set of challenges. "The normal standard for seismic work on an older building," says Mr. Black, "is

that of life safety, which means the building should not suffer such severe damage in a major earthquake that any of its inhabitants will be killed or suffer major injury."

"The higher standard, which we used for Hobart Hall, is called the performance standard. This means that the building itself should only suffer minor damage, and be capable of reopening within a few days after a large earthquake. That is the case with this entire project."

When it is completed, the Hobart Hall facility will consist of classrooms and student commons on the first floor, staff offices on the second floor, faculty offices on the third floor, and a student study and reading room and a visiting scholar's apartment on the fourth floor. The building will accommodate 100 students, 15 faculty, and 20 staff in all.

Though all of the other projects completed by Integrated Structures to date have been new construction, the success of their work on Hobart Hall will no doubt lead to offers for more such adaptive reuse projects.

Mark A. Wilson is a Realtor and architectural historian who works at Prudential California Realty's Albany office. Call him at 510-273-9383.

Tree

FROM PAGE B3

blue spruce, Fraser fir, balsam fir, Eastern white pine and white spruce experience very little needle loss.

■ The Norway spruce is a needle-dropper, and might have you sweeping or vacuuming almost daily.

■ The noble fir and the Scotch pine are ones that last, making them popular.

■ Don't forget branch strength. Heavier ornaments will work better on a tree with sturdy branches.

■ Trees with sharp needles should be avoided if you have small children or pets.

■ You probably will want your tree to last about four to six weeks, so it pays to test your prospective purchase for freshness. First, give it the bounce test. Holding the tree about 2 feet above the ground and in a vertical position, let it drop on the base of its trunk. If it doesn't

lose a substantial amount of needles, chances are it is reasonably fresh. Some needle loss is normal; excessive loss is not.

If the tree is too large to pick up, give it the shake test instead. Simply stand it on its trunk and shake it vigorously. No matter how much you liked the tree in the beginning, don't take it home if it drops a large amount of needles. A dry tree is nothing short of a mini forest fire looking for a place to ignite.

Freshness at time of purchase is essential; keeping the tree fresh once you get it home is equally important.

To accomplish this, your tree must be allowed to drink plenty of water during its stay with you. Your tree stand should hold at least a gallon of water. Just before placing the tree in the stand, use a saw to slice about 1 inch off the bottom of the trunk. It is imperative that a fresh section of trunk be placed in the water immediately.

You will have only a few moments between the time you slice

the trunk and the time it begins to reseat itself.

During its first hours in the stand, the tree can drink a quart of water in an hour or less, and a gallon or more within the first 24 hours. Expect to feed your tree about a quart of water each day. Be sure not to let the end of the tree become exposed, as it will immediately reseat itself and will no longer be able to absorb liquid.

Pittsburg contractors Morris and James O. Carey can be heard Saturday mornings on KSFO 560 AM. Write the Carey Brothers, c/o the Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020-1666, or e-mail them at careybro@onthehouse.com. Their Web site is at www.onthehouse.com.

CREDIT WORTHY

By Bobbie Reid

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

FREE TO THE PUBLIC

Information Guide. Thinking of buying a home? Are you ready to sell your property? Fidelity National Title is offering a guide to help you become better informed about the home buying and selling process. Just call and request a free Homebuyer's Guide or Homeseller's Guide. Contact Bridget Cain of Fidelity at 510-893-8100.

Holiday Extravaganza P.J. Rhae of Advantage Investors Mortgage invites everyone to the 1st Annual Holiday Extravaganza on Friday Dec. 15. Presented in conjunction with Miracle Works, the evening's potpourri of activities begins at 4 p.m. at Advantage Investors. AIM is located in the Edgewater Business Park Plaza on Edgewater in Oakland.

The gathering will feature a First Time Homebuyers presentation and a special sneak preview on Creating Health, Wealth and Success for 2001. Along with refreshments, offerings will include massage therapy, clothing, jewelry, ethnic art and crafts to purchase. For more information call 510-567-0111.

Seminar. Free first time homebuyers' seminar. Michael J. Smith & Associates Real Estate Company will present this seminar on Saturday, Dec. 16 from 10 a.m. to noon. It will be held at their office on Foothill Boulevard in Oakland. A variety of topics will be covered including how to buy for no money down. Space is limited. Register today by calling 510-430-8484.

ARPD INVITES

The Associated Real Property Brokers invites those in the real estate industry and affiliated businesses

to attend their monthly meeting. The breakfast meeting is held on the third Wednesday of every month, with the 20th as December's date. The meeting place is the Oak Tree Grill, at Jack London Square, in Oakland. Networking begins at 7:45 a.m. Contact Jewell Terrell of Realty World Chabot Highlands for more information at 510-632-2909x13.

NEW PRESIDENTS

Special congratulations go out to newly installed presidents, locally. Applause for John Holmgren of Holmgren & Associates, the new president of the Oakland Association of Realtors. Kudos to Denise Smith of Royal Realtors and Loan Services, the 2001 President of the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter. Best wishes to Ann Bracci of Gallagher & Lindsey, the new Alameda Association of Realtors president. Much luck to Steve Yoshimori of Nakamura Realty and the 2001 President of the Berkeley Association of Realtors.

Neither dimple nor chad. In these elections, all the votes counted. No dimpled, pregnant, folded, eaten or charred chads were found.

INAUGURAL INFORMATION

Mark your calendars. The Associated Real Property Brokers will hold its Inaugural luncheon on Jan. 12, 2001. Anita Jones of Sessions Real Estate, after a two year term as president will welcome incoming president Emma Becton of EB Realty. For more information contact Jewell Terrell of Realty World Chabot Highlands at 510-632-2909 x13.

WHO'S ON FIRST??

P.J. Rhae has joined Advantage Investors Mortgage. She was named

Regional President of the Oakland Association of Realtors. She is a past president of the Oakland Association of Realtors and a past president of the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter.

Let me know if you are interested in your company's future. I am a past president of the Oakland Association of Realtors and a past president of the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter.

WHAT'S UP DOCT?

Anytime you need a doctor, you need a doctor. I am a past president of the Oakland Association of Realtors and a past president of the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter.

Let me know if you are interested in your company's future. I am a past president of the Oakland Association of Realtors and a past president of the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter.

Keep in touch with the East Bay real estate community. Check out the Friday in Hills Newspaper.

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15589 CORTE ENRIQUE, SAN LORENZO VILLAGE RANCH HOME. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, on a cul-de-sac and with "Your Own Private Park" lot. \$349,000. Evelyn Kennedy, 748-1120

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Piedmont Side of Montclair



6791 Sims Dr., Oakland

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Offered at \$449,000



Helen Danhaki
& Charlotte Boyle

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Marilyn T. Bremser

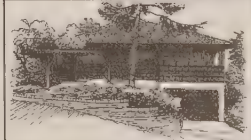
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open home.
Offered at \$895,000



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Hal Marcus

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Trendy Berkeley Live-Work Loft



1812 Sixth Street ~ Berkeley

Welcome to this exquisite, newly built live-work loft just steps from downtown Berkeley. This is a rare opportunity to own a beautiful, upscale 4th St. Shops & Cafes! Ideal for artist, photographer, therapist or small business owner. Separate work area. Live upstairs! The downstairs! Beautifully appointed with granite counters, hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances, and a full kitchen throughout. Gourmet kitchen w/ imported granite counters, handcrafted leaded glass wood cabinets. Also includes limestone and bamboo floors, 22' ceiling w/ skylights & washer & dryer in unit. Especially love the sun-drenched rooms all enclosed in windows. All this and your own private, beautifully landscaped garden & slate patios. Truly a must see!

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AREA SPECIALIST
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WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

1203 Ballena Bl - \$610,000
 1216 Ballena Bl - \$375,000
 303 Beach Rd - \$172,000
 802 Buena Vista Av - \$232,000
 1415 Canine St - \$699,000
 457 Centra Av - \$168,000
 3448 Fairview Av - \$389,000
 3152 Fir Av - \$357,000
 3268 Garfield Av - \$498,000
 405 Ironwood Rd - \$400,000
 3247 Liberty Av - \$525,000
 11 Parfait Ln - \$433,000
 119 Parfait Ln - \$412,500
 1624 Seaborn Ct - \$397,000
 960 Shorepoint Ct - \$232,500
 33 Stone Harbor - \$595,000

ALBANY

941 Evelyn Av - \$195,000
 565 Pierce St #432 - \$186,000

BERKELEY

1624 Carleton St - \$365,000
 1353 Channing Wy - \$340,000

697 Colusa Av - \$650,000
 1705 Curtis St - \$435,000
 3120 Deakin St - \$529,000
 2733 Dohr St - \$426,000
 733 Keeler Av - \$775,000
 1605 Marin Av - \$555,000
 927 Mendocino Av - \$1,200,000
 2963 Pine Av - \$730,000
 1601 Stuart St - \$250,500
 1425 Virginia St - \$393,000
 2918 Wheeler St - \$285,000

EL CERRITO

7808 Eureka Av - \$407,000
 1609 Everett St - \$350,000
 1215 Lawrence St - \$425,000
 5500 MacDonald Av - \$275,000
 5611 MacDonald Av - \$243,000
 875 Shevlin Dr - \$373,000
 2638 Tuller Av - \$385,000

EL SOBRANTE

1045 Balmore Ct - \$650,000
 3942 La Cresenta Rd - \$220,000
 5159 La Honda Rd - \$315,000
 5310 Ridgeview C#E8 - \$118,000
 5284 S. Pablo D. Rd A8 - \$79,000

EMERYVILLE

4 Anchor Dr #F22 - \$288,500
 6363 Christie Av #150 - \$270,000
 6363 Christie Av #615 - \$310,000
 2 Commodore #D279 - \$195,000
 4323 Essex St - \$289,000

KENSINGTON

531 Beloit Av - \$435,000
 106 York Av - \$650,000

OAKLAND

1116 107th Av - \$150,000
 2017 108th Av - \$240,000
 2328 19th Av - \$475,000
 3071 23rd Av - \$289,000
 1206 51st Av - \$140,000
 1205 53rd Av - \$135,000
 1331 61st Av - \$140,000
 866 61st St - \$205,000
 592 62nd St - \$295,000
 2680 68th Av - \$190,000

see SALES on page 8

DIAN HYMER RECENTLY SOLD



6040 Contra Costa Rd.
 Offered for \$999,000



235 Florence Ave.
 Offered for \$989,000



5990 Buena Vista
 Offered for \$725,000

Dian Hymer, CRS

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WORK OF ART!

Bay views & great privacy! 4BR, 3.5BA, den,
 kitchen/family rm, formal dining, finest
 construction & design! A rare opportunity for a 10
 yr. young home in the best neighborhood!
 Bebe McRae, ext. 145 \$1,700,000

EL CERRITO



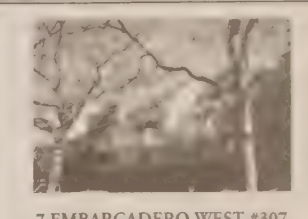
LOVELY VIEWS

..... \$1,700,000

OAKLAND



..... \$649,000



7 EMBARCADERO WEST #307
 DELUXE "PORTOBELLO" CONDOMINIUM
 Lovely 2BR/2BA, two story condo near lovely look
 London Square! Close to everything
 space! Pool, tennis, sauna, jacuzzi.
 Tricia Swift, ext. 140

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3721 A Fruitvale Ave. \$229,000
 Diamond. Jingle our bell and we'll show you this
 Santa-priced Diamond Park townhouse. 2BD/2.5BA,
 fireplace, 2 huge decks & garage. Adjoins park &
 tennis courts. Open 1 - 4 p.m. Fritz Hochtelner



5669 Calhoun Pl. \$349,000
 Hillcrest Estates. All you want for Christmas in one
 large package! A gorgeous 4-BD/3BA ranch on 1+
 acres of almost level grounds. Huge family room &
 master suite. Open 2 - 4 p.m. Fritz Hochtelner

BY APPOINTMENT

Montclair \$739,000
 43 acres of vacant land with a 5 bridge view.
 David Eckert

Claremont Heights \$650,000
 Views. Views. Stupendous lot, mostly level with design
 review approved plans. David Eckert

Montclair \$588,000
 Bay View! Gentle downslope, over 2,800 sq. ft., 4
 bedroom house with wonderful views, 2 fireplaces,
 family room, 2 car garage. Victor Fierro

Greenview Duplex \$425,000
 Charming spacious 2BD/1BA units. Formal dining
 rooms, breakfast rooms, separate laundries. Ideal for
 owner occupants. Dian Hymer

Montclair \$500,000
 38,000+ Sq. Ft. lot. Views of San Francisco, Bay Bridge
 & Golden Gate. Level lot from Grizzly Peak. David Eckert

Lincoln Heights \$499,000
 SF & Bay Views! Master suite with 2 walk-in closets.
 Perfect home office potential. Newer air conditioning,
 great deck. Jack Brennerman

Rockridge \$450,000
 Over 21,000 sq. ft. lot w/intentive approval to build
 3 houses. Call for details & conditions. Darcy Diamantine

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 it is to Give...

Make the holiday season
 brighter for children in your
 community by donating one new,
 unwrapped toy to the Toys for
 Tots program. Coldwell Banker
 is proudly joining forces with the
 United States Marine Corps
 reserve in its official Toys for
 Tots Campaign. Your local
 Coldwell Banker office is an
 official gift collection station.
 Stop by today with your gift and
 make this holiday season special
 for children in your community.

expect
 community spirit!

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PREVIEWS
EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTIES

6680 Exeter Dr. \$1,299,000
 Milano Villa. Four decks reach
 out from this approximate 4,200
 square foot masterpiece. Four
 levels serve the modern buyer's
 every need and are serviced by
 an elevator.
 First Open Sunday 2 - 5 p.m.
 Jack Brennerman

Rockridge \$325,000
 Very special jewel. Complete top-quality, remodeled,
 small but gorgeous. Convenient N. Oakland location,
 proximate to BART/shops. Don Coelho

Montclair \$299,000
 Vacant Lot. Design review approved plans. Prime
 Montclair burn area location. Do not miss!
 David Eckert

Oakland/Berkeley Hills \$259,000
 Gentle Downslope. Just listed and won't last. Located
 in million \$\$\$ homes area. Create your dream home
 Survey plus topo on file. George Karsant

6224 Broadway Terr. \$355,000
 Upper Rockridge. Bellissima
 Villa! New 3-BD/2+BA Tuscan
 villa by Mark Becker. Old-world
 charm, quality construction and
 lovely detail.
 Open Sunday 2 - 5 p.m.
 Michael Thompson

6224 Broadway Terr. \$355,000
 Upper Rockridge. Bellissima
 Villa! New 3-BD/2+BA Tuscan
 villa by Mark Becker. Old-world
 charm, quality construction and
 lovely detail.
 Open Sunday 2 - 5 p.m.
 Michael Thompson

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 Upper Rockridge. Bellissima
 Villa! New 3-BD/2+BA Tuscan
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 lovely detail.
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CRAFTSMAN REMODEL IN OAKLAND
 MILLS COLLEGE AREA \$139,000

JUST LISTED! Adorable Craftsman cottage! Extensive
 remodel including new kitchen w/ granite counters,
 1 bedroom, 1 bath, new wood floors, French doors
 from dining room open to cute fenced yard



SUNNY ALBANY MEDITERRANEAN \$399,000

This charming bungalow just shows the
 gleaming hardwood floors to the recently painted
 walls and cathedral ceilings. 3+ bedrooms, 1 bath
 formal dining plus lovely and private yard. Needs a
 little TLC

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

BERKELEY
 1621/1619 7th St. \$475,000
 2 houses 1 lot. Bobbie Giaratana

ALBANY
 1265 Portland \$399,000
 Darling 3 BR, 1 BA Mediterranean bungalow
 Diana Kay

BY APPOINTMENT

12 SUPERB BERKELEY UNITS \$1,795,000
 Lovely traditional 1920's building pride of
 ownership gem! 12 spacious 1BR units in prime
 loc., just steps from UCI Solar panels, some parking,
 great income, upside potential. Call for more info.

SUNNY ALBANY MEDITERRANEAN \$399,000
 This charming bungalow just shows the
 gleaming hardwood floors to the recently painted
 walls and cathedral ceilings. 3+ bedrooms, 1 bath
 formal dining plus lovely and private rear yard. Needs a
 little TLC

YOUR OWN PRIVATE WILDERNESS \$495,000
 2+BR/1BA home on a huge lot in No. Berkeley
 w/natural stands of trees. Use off DR plus
 2 large rms below. 3 car garage. Walk to Kensington shops

CHARMING ALBANY BUNGALOW WITH
 CITY VIEWS \$340,000
 JUST LISTED! Come inside to appreciate the charm &
 privacy of this special Albany bungalow. 2 bedrooms,
 1 bath on the main floor plus generous lower level
 with second full bath. Living & dining areas
 surrounded by windows, kitchen with skylit eating
 area that overlooks the bay. Enjoy coffee and sunsets
 from the deck. Near schools, shops & restaurants and
 EZ commute

2 BERKELEY HOUSES — 1 BIG LOT! \$475,000
 JUST LISTED! Income plus a lot of flexible space
 Cosmetic fixer — bring your imagination! 4
 bedroom, 3 bath house plus 3 second 2 bedroom 1
 bath house — with skylites! Great potential!

THIS IS YOUR DREAM BUNGALOW \$299,000
 JUST LISTED! Beautifully maintained home with
 much of the original features. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath
 formal dining w/ fireplace, kitchen w/ wood
 floors. Deck overlooks serene backyard and water
 garden. Storage rooms and detached garage.

STYLISH BERKELEY
 CONTEMPORARY \$439,000
 JUST LISTED! Relax in the peaceful setting that
 surrounds this architect designed home. 2
 bedrooms plus possible home office-in-law. Gazebo
 garden plus secluded patio. Close to Rose Garden,
 Corcoran Park, campus and Gourmet Ghetto

GREAT INCOME OPPORTUNITY \$285,000
 JUST LISTED! North Oakland 4 plex awaiting your
 tender loving care! Three 1 bedroom units and one 2
 bedroom unit. Large lot, garages, laundry and lots of
 storage. Up and coming area — great value/upside
 potential.

RARE EMERYVILLE LIVE/WORK \$415,000
 JUST LISTED! Terrific live/work condo near
 Emeryville market, movie theaters, shopping and
 freeway. Open, sunlit, 1 bed w/ circular
 staircase to upper level. 1 bedroom, 2.5 baths,
 wood floors, separate entrance for living area, plus 2
 parking spaces.

CRAFTSMAN STYLE OAKLAND DUPLEX \$275,000
 JUST LISTED! Sunny & bright shingled duplex with
 views of downtown Oakland! 2 bedrooms, 1 bath
 down; 1+ bedroom up. Hardwood floors, new vinyl in kitchen, new paint inside and out.
 Fireplace downstairs.

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Sales

FROM PAGE B7

1075 69th Av - \$165,000
178 7th St - \$247,000
2545 83rd Av - \$197,000
1009 91st Av - \$179,000
1932 92nd Av - \$240,000
1222 97th Av - \$120,000
1023 Aileen St - \$240,000
6464 Ascot Dr - \$852,500
1433 Barrows Av - \$695,000
127 Bayo Vista #208 - \$165,000
94 Bayo Vista Av - \$107,500
1801 Brandon St - \$752,000
5926 Bromley Av - \$108,000
200 Caldecott Ln - \$265,000
1823 Casterline Rd - \$806,000
6449 Chabot Rd - \$733,000
29 Clarewood Ln - \$426,000
3135 Coolidge Av - \$273,000
4234 Coolidge Av - \$690,000
455 Crescent St #207 - \$118,000
3283 Dakota St - \$342,000
6101 Doncaster Pl - \$449,500
5420 Dover St - \$295,000
5822 Dover St - \$353,000
8056 Earl St - \$272,000
2767 East 21st St - \$170,000
2430 East 28th St - \$201,000
2944 Eastman Av - \$298,000
1366 El Centro Av - \$460,000
3701 Elston Av - \$400,000
340 Elysian Fields Dr - \$350,000
1940 Gouldin Rd - \$555,000
2512 Grande Vista Av - \$230,000
470 Hale Av - \$155,000
1951 Harrington Av - \$174,000
454 Hiller Dr - \$567,000
8120 Hillside St - \$170,000
6024 Holway St - \$215,000
1555 Lakeside Dr #140 - \$192,500
2320 Leimert Bl - \$636,000
3417 Louise St - \$129,000
4117 Lyon Av - \$200,000
6315 MacArthur Bl - \$325,000
7720 MacArthur Bl - \$265,000
2726 Madeline St - \$320,000
1428 Madison St - \$92,000
2129 Magellan Dr - \$429,000
1056 Mandana Bl - \$705,000
903 MLK Jr. Wy - \$212,000

4177 Masterson St - \$210,000
3848 Midvale Av - \$275,000
2626 Minna Av - \$253,000
10 Moss Av - \$218,000
233 Orange St - \$145,000
3516 Rhoda Av - \$292,000
258 Ridgeway Av - \$337,000
167 Samaria Ln - \$350,000
9856 Springfield St - \$155,000
4228 Suter St - \$238,000
3251 Sylvan Av - \$460,000
4529 Thompson St - \$139,000
7028 Thornhill Dr - \$706,000
4536 Tompkins Av - \$280,000
2151 Vicksburg Av - \$242,000
7820 Weld St - \$155,000
250 Whitmore St - \$250,000

RICHMOND

219 1st St - \$90,000
789 21st St - \$183,000
877 33rd St - \$275,000
700 35th St - \$213,000
450 39th St - \$285,000
224 3rd St - \$155,000
2824 Andrade Av - \$220,000
2514 Baywood Wy - \$355,000
834 Chanslor Av - \$109,000
3115 Clinton Av - \$205,000
1328 Club Ln - \$284,500
107 Coach Ct - \$395,000
5571 Country View - \$465,000
17 Dove Ln - \$224,000
509 Florida Av - \$165,000
2019 Grant Av - \$174,000
4302 Harmon Rd - \$235,000
523 Harrison Dr - \$129,000
724 Kern St - \$225,000
2550 Lowell Av - \$200,000
3146 Moyers Rd - \$240,000
3421 Ohio Av - \$140,000
3727 Painted Pony - \$390,000
6098 Ralston Av - \$112,000
2544 Roosevelt Av - \$169,000
6200 Rosalind Av - \$260,000
2615 Sheldon Dr - \$260,000
412 South 20th St - \$115,000
145 South 35th St - \$170,000
333 South 39th St - \$200,000
149 South 9th St - \$130,000

SAN LEANDRO

951 Ark Dr - \$263,000
2031 Banff Av - \$335,000
1638 Boxwood Av - \$333,000
1684 Boxwood Av - \$355,000
16809 Carriage Ln - \$205,000
14935 Fjord St - \$402,500
2519 Galleon #127 - \$288,000
869 Glen Dr - \$470,000
1431 Kelly Av - \$251,000
1523 Marybelle Av - \$330,000
15925 Maubert Av #7 - \$215,000
1660 Mono Av - \$225,000
14589 Nassau Rd - \$240,000
14410 Outrigger Dr - \$235,000
1217 Purdue St - \$270,000
16307 Ria Dr - \$240,000
14736 Saturn Dr - \$242,000
686 Sybil Av - \$339,000
15281 Upton Av - \$180,000
350 Williams St - \$274,000
2487 Yaffe Dr - \$420,000

SAN LORENZO

553 Cornell St - \$340,000
15854 Corte Gualdo - \$300,000
761 Galway Dr - \$270,000
16132 Silverleaf Dr - \$392,000
16121 Via Alamos - \$263,500
17861 Via Arriba - \$210,500
16019 Via Descanso - \$237,000

On the average

ALAMIDA

TOTAL SALES: 16
LOWEST PRICE: \$168,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$699,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$405,938

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$186,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$195,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$190,500

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 13
LOWEST PRICE: \$250,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,200,000

MEDIAN PRICE: \$435,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$533,346

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$243,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$425,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$373,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$351,143

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$79,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$650,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$220,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$276,400

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$195,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$310,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$288,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$270,500

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$435,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$650,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$542,500

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 76
LOWEST PRICE: \$2,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$852,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$309,039

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 31
LOWEST PRICE: \$90,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$465,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$205,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$218,468

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 21
LOWEST PRICE: \$180,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$470,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$270,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$291,071

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$210,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$392,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$270,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$287,571

Coldwell Banker makes holiday dreams come true

This holiday season, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is joining forces with the United States Marine Corps Reserve in its local Toys for Tots campaign.

The annual program is designed to provide holiday joy for needy children through the collection and distribution of new, unwrapped toys.

Coldwell Banker offices will serve as official collection centers through Dec. 22. Founded in 1947, Toys for Tots has evolved from a small Los Angeles-area project to a nationwide campaign. Over the past 52 years, Marines have distributed over 243 million toys to some 121 million needy children across the nation.

"For many children, the magic of the holiday season is only a dream," said Avram Goldman, Coldwell

Banker Residential Brokerage, Northern California's president and chief operating officer.

"With the community's help, we'll be able to provide the needy children of our community with a memorable experience."

This is Coldwell Banker's 14th year participating in the worthwhile Toys for Tots drive. Residents who want to contribute may drop a new or unused toy by the Coldwell Banker offices at 6137 La Salle Ave. in Oakland's Montclair Village or at 1495 Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley.

Members of the United States Marine Corps Reserve will pick up the toys from each Coldwell Banker collection center and deliver them to charitable organizations and social welfare agencies in the area.

Floor

FROM PAGE B4

Vinyl floors should be dusted and damp mopped frequently to keep dust and dirt from collecting. If the floor looks dirty, you can wash it with a vinyl-floor cleaner (available from home centers and floor dealers). These products are good because they require no rinsing. If, however, you cannot find a good vinyl-floor cleaner, you can use a general-purpose cleaner dissolved in water, but it is essential to rinse the floor thoroughly and remove all traces of the cleaner. Residue cleaner will leave a dull film that will attract dirt.

When the floor is thoroughly clean and well rinsed, you may want to polish it to get a higher sheen. Use an acrylic polish formulated for vinyl floor. Never use a solvent-based wax.

Most stains on a vinyl floor do not penetrate below the surface. They can usually be removed with a liquid cleaner and a plastic scrub pad. Stubborn stains may be removed with solvents like rubbing alcohol or mineral spirits. Bleach can also be effective, but it might possibly affect the colors in the flooring, so test it in an inconspicuous part of the floor first. After using any solvent or bleach, be sure to wash and rinse the floor.

Ceramic tile can easily be cleaned with a solution of mild soap and warm water. Stains are a little more of a problem, especially in the grout and on unglazed tiles. These can usually be removed with a solution of muriatic acid (available at home centers and tile supply stores) and water.

Follow the manufacturers' directions for using the muriatic acid, wear protective gloves and goggles and work with adequate ventilation.

Just Like New
Open Sunday
Dec. 17th, 2-4 pm

10433 Foothill Blvd., Oakland
4 Bd, 3 ba, office. Gorgeous new granite counter tops and marble floors. Recently landscaped large corner lot surrounded by custom iron gatework. Updated electrical & plumbing. Completely remodeled with an addition. Easy access to Hwy 580, close to the Dunsmuir House and Gardens. Convenient shopping nearby.
Offered at \$380,000

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Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
806 Grand Gold Coast Dennis Kiehl, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1132	48A/2 - BA	2-4	\$875,000
1050 San Antonio Nancy & Steve Brandt 510-414-4823 Harbor Bay Realty	480/3BA	2-4	\$866,000
2841 Van Buren Margaret Lonkie 510-814-4829 Harbor Bay Realty	3 - 80/2BA	2-4	\$509,900
3 Purcell Dr Darin Vissal 510-814-4824 Harbor Bay Realty	380/2 - BA	2-4	\$549,000
1010 San Antonio Dennis Cofield 510-522-4011, Kane & Associates	280	2-4	\$535,000
1312 Hansen Dr Michael Studebaker, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1128	38A/2BA	2-4	\$529,500
1124 - 22 Pearl Danna Wyman, Bayridge Real Estate, 510-522-5827	280/-BA	2-4	\$498,000
1715 Encinal Mark Wyman, Bayridge Real Estate, 510-522-5827	380/2BA	2-4	\$465,000
3314 Fir Ray Farn Fred Hobbs, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1138	38A/1 - BA	2-4	\$350,000
1926 Nason St Juana Letitia, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1113	38A/1BA	2-4	\$239,000
2426 Lincoln #K Marlyn Pomeroy 510-414-4845 Harbor Bay Realty	380/2 - BA	2-4	\$229,000

ALBANY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1289 Brighton Ave Albany Ed Luo, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	2 - 80/2BA	2-4:30	\$325,000
1034 Masonic Terrace Jua, Prudential CA Rty, 510-524-2529	280/1BA	2-4	\$298,000

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
861 Millier Ave Berkeley Erica Celestre, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	580/3.5BA	2-4:30	\$1,650,000

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2015 Channing Way Lair Kadosh, Bayridge Realty, 510-287-9180	380/3BA	1-4	\$435,000

EL SOBRANTE

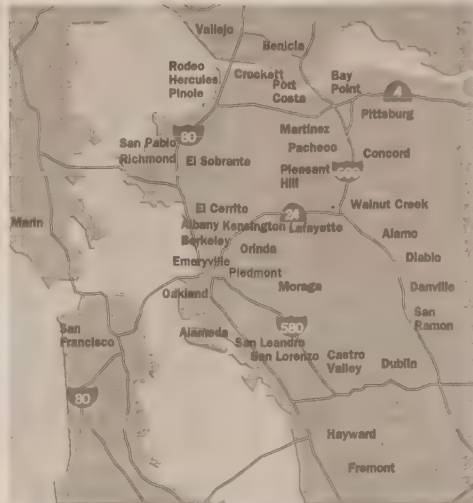
Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3313 Brentwood David Vogel, Prudential CA Rty, 510-524-5143	380/2 - BA	1-4	\$310,000

KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
8 Canyon Ave Kensington Hal Marcus, Montclair Better Homes, 510-287-5886	380/2 - BA	1-4	\$595,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6542 Manchester Dr Upper Rockridge John Ramsey, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/3 - BA	2-4:30	\$2,375,000
6070 Contra Costa Rd Upper Rockridge Laurel Strand, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/3BA	2-4:30	\$1,879,000
6680 Exeter Piedmont Pines Jack Brenneisen 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	4 - 84/3BA	1-4	\$1,299,000
7400 Woodrow Av Montclair Susanne Paul, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/3BA	2-4:30	\$846,000
6224 Broadway Terr Upper Rockridge John Alfred 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	3 - 84/2BA	2-5	\$885,000
5669 Colburn Hollcrest Estate Fritz Hochstetler 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	2 - 84/2BA	2-4	\$848,000
6945 Skyline Blvd Montclair Caroline Polans, Montclair Better Homes, 510-889-5106	480/3BA	2-4:30	\$769,000
6153 Castle Dr Montclair Wendy Gardner 510-339-6450 ext.303, Pacific Union	480/2BA	1-4	\$625,000



OAKLAND

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78 Starview Dr Village Highlands Joanna Hirsch 510-339-6460 ext.303, Pacific Union	480/2 - BA	1-4	\$543,000
801 Mandana Blvd Crocker Highlands Christina Claylaugh, Montclair Better Homes, 510-287-8595	-80/-BA	2-4:30	\$525,000
5800 Colton Blvd. Montclair Bob Nelson, Rockridge Realty, 510-655-2330	380/2 - BA	2-4:30	\$520,000

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1024 Winsor Ave Lafayette Highlands Steve Michaelides, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	2 - 80/1BA	2-4:30	\$488,000
395 - 60th St Rockridge Jim Ferguson, La Salle Properties 510-339-8900	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$485,000
3082 Roxbury Berkeley Village Earle Shenk, Montclair Better Homes, 510-287-9590	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$459,000

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8134 Couch Dr. Georgia Richardson, Richardson R.E., 510-509-3488	480/2.5BA	2-4:30	\$450,000
3975 Turnley Sagebrush Hgts Ed Marshall, Prudential CA Realty 510-339-8280	480/2BA	2-4:30	\$449,000
5781 Sims Dr Piedmont side of Montclair Helen Darstad 510-339-6460 ext. 356, Charlotte Boyle ext. 270 Pacific Union	280/2BA	1-4	\$448,000
4331 Terrabella Place Montebello Terr Sherry Benninger, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	380/2 - BA	2-4:30	\$438,000
520 Chetwood Av Rose Garden Tom Anthony 510-339-6460 ext.336, Pacific Union	480/-BA	2-4:30	\$429,000
87 Mortell St Piedmont Ave David Kerr, Montclair Better Homes, 510-287-9571	2 - 80/2BA	2-4:30	\$395,000
422 Lagunitas Ave Tad Norment, Prudential CA Rty 510-869-5052	280/1BA	2-4:30	\$387,500
10433 Foothill Blvd Oakland Alice Wong-Roth, Prudential CA Rty 510-429-0900	4 - 84/3BA	2-4:30	\$380,000
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428 37th St Alvina Acuna, Prudential CA Rty, 510-524-2529	380/2BA	1-4	\$378,000
3918 Patterson Ave Redwood Heights Judy Raskin, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	2 - 80/2BA	2-4:30	\$338,000
1510 Adeline St West Oakland Nori Robinson, Montclair Better Homes, 510-287-5273	380/2 - BA	2-4:30	\$329,000
2812 MacArthur Blvd Alameda Alan Goech 510-521-0980, Kane & Associates	280/2BA	2-4	\$295,000
4126 Heights Redwood Heights Helen Nicholas, La Salle Properties 510-339-8900	2 - 80/1BA	2-4:30	\$279,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2143-2145 Vicksburg Marshall Park (out) Nori Robinson, Montclair Better Homes, 510-287-5273	2 mls	2-4:30	\$248,000
4016 Bayo St Lauri Penny Schultz, Prudential CA Realty 510-424-2816	380/1BA	2-4	\$238,000
2721 A Fruitvale Ave Diamond Fritz Hochstetler 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	2 - 84/2BA	2-4	\$229,000
904 Alvarado Prudential CA Rty, 510-524-5143	480/2 BA	2-4	\$1,885,000
900 Alvarado Lille Brassy, Prudential CA Rty, 510-524-5143	480/2 BA	2-4	\$1,795,000
1790 Arrowhead Dr Montclair Neil Caulta, La Salle Properties 510-339-8900	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$880,000

PIEDMONT

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91 Ramona Piedmont Alice Gourman, Prudential CA Rty 510-429-0900	380/-BA	2-4	\$548,000

RICHMOND

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6855 Arlington Cypress Park 510-882-8528, Security Pacific	2 - 80/1BA	1-4	\$248,888

SAN FRANCISCO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
39 Topoka Silver Terrace Della Hanson, Prudential Ca Realty 510-339-8290	2 - 80/1BA	2-4:30	\$350,000

SAN LEANDRO

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828 Broadmoor Blvd Broadmoor Sue Sherrill, Montclair Better Homes, 510-287-9590	3 - 80/2BA	2-4:30	\$485,000

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Fireplace offers more than a mood

As heating bills rise, folks are returning the hearth to its original purpose — keeping the house warm

By Beverly Fortune
KINGSTON HILLS NEWSPAPERS

LEXINGTON, Ky. — The snap and pop of wood burning in the fireplace warms Robert Hender's heart. He loves everything about a wood fire:

The smell.
The sound.
The family pulling up close to get toasty-warm, then scooting back when their faces glow rosy-red from the heat.

"I even like going out to get the wood and bringing it home, stacking it, because that means winter has come, and it's snuggle time," said Hender, whose family lives in an older house in Lexington, Ky.

Granted, burning wood can be messy. Wood bits and ashes drop on the rug and need to be swept up from the hearth. And it's not the most efficient way to heat.

"But I don't ever worry about that

because of all the pluses," Hender said.

That's how wood-burning devotees feel about a real fire, whether in an open fireplace or a fireplace insert. "So it's messy," said Shelly Johnson, a stay-at-home mom in Powell County, Ky. "I'm home every day, so I'm able to keep it swept up."

Shelly's husband, Jason, a quality engineer in Mount Sterling, uses a chainsaw to cut up fallen trees and limbs from their yard and their neighbors' yards. With an ax, he splits the logs into chunks that fit easily into the fireplace.

The Johnsons recently installed a new gas furnace, but they plan to continue using their fireplace. "Our house is kind of large," she said. "So we use it not just for ambience, but it's supplemental heat."

Gas logs are no mess, no fuss, and can be lit with a match or the turn of a key. They also outsell wood-burning fireplace inserts 10-to-1 these days.

But many people who prefer burning wood share Kathy Hummer's opinion of gas logs: "You can have them," Hummer said.

She had gas logs removed and the gas line capped in the living room

Gas logs are no mess, no fuss, and can be lit with a match or the turn of a key. They also outsell wood-burning fireplace inserts 10-to-1 these days.

fireplace in her 1950s-era house.

"Matter of fact, I did that as soon as I moved in. That was 1988," she said.

The wood "makes the whole house smell good," said Hummer, a postal clerk.

Despite the ambience, an open fireplace is not the most efficient way to heat a room because, with the damper open, "you're sucking about

see FIREPLACE on page 18

Check out this week's Open Home Guide on page B9



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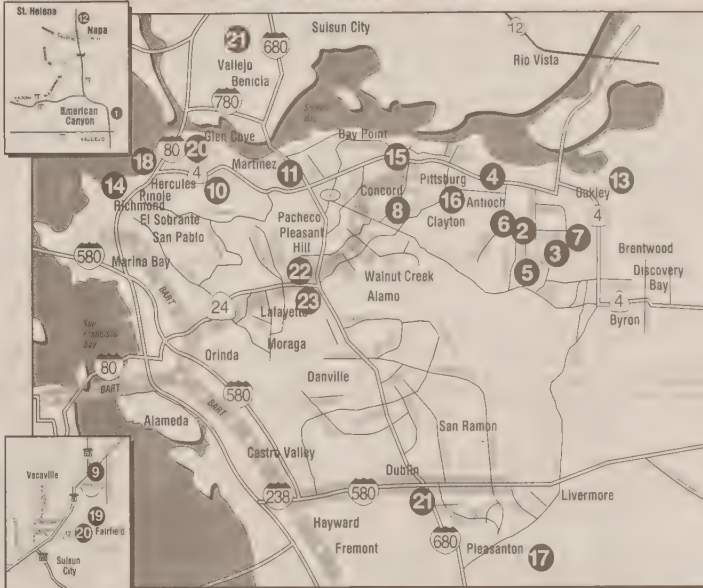
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10 Belleterra
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13 Marsh Creek
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14 Harbour Cove in Pinole
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17 Rose Avenue Estates
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(925) 634-4650 (209) 604-6279 FOR SALE BY OWNER 15 months new 4bd/2ba, 3150 sq. ft. upgrades galore. Sellers transferred. \$429K. Call 925/240-0430 OPEN SUN. 1-4 By Owner 4BD/3BA, 2229 sq. ft., ct. loc. spa, AB Solid Meadow Ct. \$329K. Call for appt (925) 516-0303 * HORSE LOVERS * Just listed, Super ranch. Agt. 925/672-7323 713 Clayton * HORSE LOVERS * Just listed, \$389K, Robins Ranches 925/672-7323 OAKHURST/Windmill 4BD/3BA, view, fric. pool, 2 car gar. \$498K (925) 968-5537 715 Concord * HORSE LOVERS * 3BD/2BA, pool, barn, arena. Agt. 925/672-7323 LUXURY living elegant 4bd/2ba w/fantastic view Agt. (925) 687-4664	717 Danville * 8+ ACRES * 1600 Block Lawrence Rd Agt. 925/672-7323 RENT/option 3bd, Eastgate Blackhawk \$3350/mo. \$25 736-3500 Tassajara Vly. RE 721 Hercules WESTWOOD OPEN SUN. 1:30-4:30 Charming 2BD/2BA Westwood Duet in Village Park. Features: Multi-tiered windows, soaring ceilings, fireplace in living room, new carpets, fresh paint, new tile flooring in bathrooms, 2 car garage. Great commute location-just minutes from highways 4 & 80 and the Richmond Parkway \$275,000. 75 Ben Lomond Virginia. Century 21 SELLS 510/669-5230 723A Livermore 108 ACRE ESTATE Btwn Danville & Livermore. Horse, vineyards & more! New 3BD/2BA fm. & arena \$1.25M. Bkr. 800-942-5626 CLASSIFIED QUICK & EASY!	724 Martinez * HORSE LOVERS * 75+ Acre ranch, ROBINS Ranches Agt. 925/672-7323 OPEN 1-4 612 Alpine Ct. 4BD/2BA, pool, view \$395K. Bkr., John 925/284-6550 725C Oakland MONTCLARION Hills views to de for 4BD/2BA, 2200 sq. ft. \$642,000. Agt. Cill-ford 408/309-3278 726 Orinda PARK-LIKE rear yd., 3/4 ac 3bd/1ba, 238' Overhill \$680K. (925) 451-0629 729 Pittsburg MOTIVATED SELLER By Owner. Nice 3BD/2 1/2 BA great loc. New opt. paint. Ask \$215K. (925) 798-1175 2-BD/2BA, 17 yrs old, by govt/BART, lg. yd, \$205K. Belov. R.E. 925/687-5200 730 Pleasant Hill 3BD/2BA, close to hwy, RV parking, Jacuzzi \$265,000. 415/602-0720, 415/609-7546, 415/759-1012	732 Richmond Richmond View, \$249,988 5855 North Arlington 2-bd/1ba, Sat. & Sun 1-4. Secluded country living. Alvarado/Wildcat Canyon Reg. Park/Woodley set-ting. cynthiaburke.com Agt. 510-662-9595 Security Pacific RE 744 Vacaville UNBELIEVABLE 4BD, 2 1/2 BA, nestled in Vaca Hills wood. \$369,000. INV BRO R.E. (707) 447-1146 745 Walnut Creek NORTHGATE GEM! 2 story, 4BD/3BA total remodel on great court. New dual-pane windows, new kit oak cabinets w/granite slab countertops, & top-of-the-line GE appls. Refreshed hardwoods throughout & updated baths. Ceramic tile, granite tiles on tripic, w/interior New deck, and landscape with timed sprinklers. Freshly painted interior, newer roof & 2-zone heat and air. Pre-MLS and ready for occupancy before Christmas at \$669,800. Will co-op with buyers. Agt. to preview call (925) 933-5575	759 Property Outside Bay Area 20 ACRES, \$35,000, \$2500 down. Above Lake Orville. Broker: (530) 634-3626 MENDOCINO County, se-cluded 3BD, no neighbors, fenced garden, hand-cup friendly, sauna, owner/foal \$147,000 (707) 459-3500 759 Lots & Acreage Residential ACRE VIEW LOT in Pacheco. Call 925-328-3952 BRENTWOOD: 1/2 mi. out of town, 44 acres, \$22,500/acre. Days (209) 493-8775. Even (925) 625-2944 DANVILLE 3/4 Acre flat, beautiful country setting, 242 LA Questa Dr. \$429,000. Agt. 925-260-6961 LAFAYETTE - 0.9 acre lot with gorgeous views! Build the home of your dreams! End of cul-de-sac SW exposure w/unforgettable sunset! Easy access to hwy. 24/680, 5 min. to LaF. W.C. downtown/BART. North pool & tennis. \$333K net. Call 925/962-1834 ORINDA or Castlegate area, 3800 sq. ft. design Views, level yd. \$349,000. Brian (510) 335-3963	771 Mountain-Vacation Property COUNTRY lots once owned by "The Tin Man" Pvt. S. fish & more! 925/254-2647 TAHOE DONNER Call for free list & map. Pacific Crest Properties. 925-334-0074 775 Real Estate Wanted WANTED For daughter. Older home/lake upper in Richmond, San Pablo areas. Father will pay All cash. (925) 335-8077 Do You Need Quick Results From Your Ad? Call CLASSIFIED! The Results Will Astound You! Contra Costa Times 925-933-2222 Valley Times 925-461-2965 San Ramon 925-721-3211 West County Times 925-721-3211 Ledger Dispatch 925-721-3211 Hills News/Action 925-721-3211 Oakland 925-721-3211 Alameda 925-721-3211
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Holiday Craft and Boutique Corner

Holiday Boutiques CERAMIC BOUTIQUE Sat., Dec. 16th, 9-5 344 Donegal Way Martinez (Behind Virginia Hills) CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR Saturday 12/16, from 10-5 Willow & Clinton, Alameda Fantasy art, Crivelli Italian Salsa, Renaissance cloth- ing, candles, beef jerky, Christmas ornaments, wreaths & more!	Holiday Boutiques HOLIDAY SALE Fri./Sat. 12/15 & 12/16, 9-1 Pillows, quilts, travel & gift bags, stockings, napkins & more. Kids' books, tree skirts, pillow cases, etc. Clydeedale to Belgian to: 10 Sorrel Ct. Announcements Business Services Instruction	Holiday Boutiques JEWELRY BOUTIQUE Hand made pearl & crystal jewelry visit us 12/17, From 11 AM - 4 PM AT The Best Western in Benicia. 707-747-6070 www.crea- tivefinishingtouches.com CLASSIFIED = RESULTS
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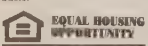


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Offices & Stores for Rent

PLEASANTON: Sm. office. In bus. park. 1000 sq. ft. Full av. (925) 485-0410

SAN RAMON: Space, 1200 sq. ft. \$170 per sq. ft. (925) 936-5659

WALNUT Creek office. 1000 sq. ft. \$850/mo. 1136 Saranap Ave. 925/933-8654

WALNUT Creek 1200 sq. ft. Alpine Rd. ext. windows. 5000 sq. ft. \$700 (925) 932-4242

WALNUT Creek 2700 sq. ft. \$145 ft. garden setting. nr. Hwy. 925-943-7255

WALNUT Creek 350 sq. ft. parking. Elevator. \$775/mo. all inclusive (925) 284-4211

WANTED: physical therapist with established practice seeks F/T office. Some time. 925-851-0110

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CONCORD: For lease. 2000 sq. ft. w/roll-up. Approx 2500 sq. ft. near Highway 92. Call: (925) 932-0890

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Share Rentals

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Fireplace

FROM PAGE B10

4,000 square feet of air (per hour) right up your chimney," said Scott Farmer, owner of Aurora Wood Stoves, Pools & Spas.

A fireplace insert — a double-wall steel unit equipped with a thermostat and a blower that fits into an existing fireplace — is more efficient. Most inserts sold today have catalytic combustors that burn the gases that are produced before they escape out the back of the insert. "It gives you back more heat because you get a secondary burn," Farmer said. The converter also reduces air pollution. The price of quality inserts ranges from \$900 to \$1,500. Farmer said the increasing cost of natural gas may dampen the popularity of gas logs over fireplace inserts.

For example, Columbia Gas of Kentucky customers will pay 42 percent more for natural gas over last year. The new prices took effect Dec. 1.

"I think everyone is panicking, thinking, 'Oh, I better burn wood,'" said Gina Mattingly, secretary at ArborCare of Kentucky tree service, which sells wood from limbs and trees they cut for customers. Mattingly hasn't even had to run an ad this fall about firewood for sale.

"I've had plenty of customers call," Mattingly said. "A lot is repeat business and word-of-mouth."

Farmer's store sold five fireplace inserts on a recent weekend, he sold three himself, and every customer expressed concern about rising gas costs.

"They were all looking for supplemental heat," he said, "so they wouldn't be using their furnace as much."



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SPORTS

JV

Friday, December 15, 2000

Section C

Braunstein Ringing in the new season [C2]

Arts 'Christmas Revels' — Commedia dell'arte — according to Hoyle [C3]



RON SALSIG
Range Rat

Golf books to tuck under a tree

This past year I had the privilege of collaborating with NBC golf analyst Roger Maltbie to write the book, *Range Rats*. There was much I had to learn about the book-writing business.

Books are a different animal in the publishing jungle. For instance, I had to work long and hard to get Roger's voice right in the manuscript. It was important to me that I do this right. A pet peeve of mine is ghost writers who do not even make an attempt to convey the spirit of the celebrity author in the writing.

About the seventh draft of that manuscript the editor said I had it (finally!), and now I could start writing. In the newspaper business, often we are required to write stories in 10 minutes — the game ends at 10:45, deadline is 11 p.m. This book was taking months to write.

And then there is the sell — public appearances, book readings and signings, television, radio ... I've never had to sell a column that way. Well, hardly ever. There was the column I wrote about Dan Quayle being a no-show at the 1991 People's Open, which he promised to attend. The White House called the newsroom demanding a retraction, all of which required some media defense. But that's another story, although I still can't believe the White House put forth such an effort on our poor little paper, over 30 phone calls in one day, and two reams of fax.

When Range Rats first came out, people who lived in my home town said they could not find it. I went down to Waldenbooks at South Shore Center in Alameda and asked them why they were not carrying the book. The manager, in the sternest voice, told me, "We don't do local authors."

I stood there dumbfounded for quite some time. My immediate thought was to run home and write a column entitled "Boycott Waldenbooks." But I resisted the temptation (although I do, personally, boycott Waldenbooks to this day).

With all this in mind, I pay respect to the authors of some very worthwhile golf books which were published this year, and worth considering as Christmas gifts.

Tiger Woods has co-authored a book with Pete McDaniell of Golf World magazine called *Uneven Lies*, about the historical plight of black golfers. It's a good book, worth buying.

But Oakland golfer/writer J.C. Callaway has had a book out for a year now on the same subject which is at least as good, maybe better. *Invisible Golfers* was published earlier this year by True Talent Publications (2977 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Walnut Creek). Callaway tells the story from John Shippen, who played in the second U.S. Open amid protest, to Woods, who won the 100th U.S. Open, with detail and perception.

The Legend of Bagger Vance by Stephen Pressfield is a wonderful novel, now out in paperback and film. But here's one you may not have heard of, which may be better — *The Greatest Player Who Never Lived*, by J. Michael Veron (Sleeping Bear Press). This is the story of a golfer who had to hide his name and his talent, but played Bobby Jones to a standstill. Wonderfully written.

Sure to be a hit this Christmas season is a new book on Ben Hogan. *The Fundamentals of Hogan* (Doubleday), by David Leadbetter with Lorne Rubenstein, is already in my library. Why? Because this book has all the photos that Anthony Ravielli took of Hogan to do his magnificent drawings in Hogan's masterpiece, *Five Lessons*. These photos are a true find that any Hogan devotee will cherish.

My objection to the book is the constant intrusion by Leadbetter, explaining what the "average" golfer might take from the knowledge Hogan generated, implying clearly that an "average" golfer has limitations in intelligence as well as athletic ability. Hogan wrote his

See SALSIG, Page C2



BERKELEY'S ROBIN ROBERSON seemed to be enjoying herself during her team's win over Bonita Vista during the first annual Lady Yellow Jacket Basketball Tournament. The Yellowjackets swept through the tourney to claim the title.

Yellowjackets sweep own tournament

Roberson scores 26 as Berkeley bests Bishop Gorman in final

By Marc Carig
STAFF WRITER

At one point, Nevada girls basketball power Bishop Gorman High School of Las Vegas closed to within four points of Berkeley High School on Saturday night.

But the Yellowjackets showed why they are one of California's premier programs, outrunning the Gaels and taking a 67-58 win in the championship game of the inaugural Lady Yellow Jacket Basketball Tournament.

Senior forward Robin Roberson led the Yellowjackets (5-0) with 26 points.

After the Gaels (4-2) opened the game by scoring on its first two trips down the floor, the Yellowjackets responded with a 20-5 run. Down 15 points, the Gaels used fast-break baskets to start a surge of their own, embarking on a 15-2 run through most of the second quarter.

A basket by Liz Cansdale brought Bishop Gorman to within four points, 27-23 with 3 minutes, 39 seconds left before the half.

But that's as close as the Gaels would get.

Prep girls' basketball

Berkeley	67
Gorman	58

"We started to put them away late in the second quarter," Yellowjackets coach Gene Nakamura said.

By halftime, Berkeley's lead was 37-30. The Yellowjackets outscored the Gaels 13-7, rallying behind Roberson's 10-third quarter points to open up their lead to 50-37 entering the final period.

"This is my job this year," Roberson said, "To be a leader, and to lead by example."

The Yellowjackets took their biggest lead, 17 points, with 3:20 left in the game.

"They know how to win," Bishop Gorman coach Sheryl Krmpotich said. "We haven't gotten to that point yet, but I'm proud of my kids. They never quit."

In Krmpotich's first two seasons as the Bishop Gorman coach, the Gaels racked up a 49-13 record.

In 1999, the team made it to the title game of the Nevada Interscholastic Athletic Association tournament.

Sabrina Keys had 14 points for Berkeley in the title game.

In the semifinal game on Friday night, the Yellowjackets defeated Sacred Heart Prep of San Francisco and in the opener on Thursday, knocked off Bonita Vista of Chula Vista 50-36.

Berkeley forced 37 turnovers against Bonita Vista as it shut out the visitors 11-0 in the first quarter. The Yellowjackets needed that defensive effort, as they shot 28.6 percent (20-of-70) from the floor. Junior Angelita Hutton led Berkeley with 14 points. Nakamura cleared his bench, using all 13 players on his team.

Staff writer Scott Strain contributed to this story.

One Hornet no match for Cougars

Hernandez scores 17, Amos 11 in victory

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

ALAMEDA — Eight Cougars will trump one Hornet any day of the week.

It wasn't exactly a stacked deck that Albany coach Doug Kagawa was playing with — the Cougars were missing three players to begin with — but he had enough to defeat Alameda's one-man show Tuesday night, knocking off the Hornets 53-47 in a non-league game at the Hornets Nest.

David Hernandez scored 17 points and James Amos had 11 for the Cougars (3-3), who got enough help to offset the 29 points scored by Alameda's Martin Puckett. Other than Jason Goodwin's 10 points, the Hornets (5-4) received rather tepid support. Only one other player scored (Eric Jefferies had six). Besides Hernandez and Amos, six Albany players scored.

For Albany, it was a matter keeping enough players on the floor. Luckily, the team has a bunch of quick guards and they drove Alameda to distraction. Kagawa was missing starter David Callister and two other players from the start. He saw Ken Mimoto and Matt Hansen crumpled on the floor at various times and spent part of the game filling in gaps.

Change the style of play? No way.

"That is the way we play the game," Kagawa said of his team's hell-bent style. "We don't have the strength or height to play any other way. We play defense and run. This is what we do."

Don't let Albany fool you. The Cougars have a couple of good inside people who are quick. Hernandez and Amos are both 6-foot-2 and combined for 28 points. But they are not big.

Hernandez scored eight points in the first quarter and Amos had eight in the second as Albany took a 34-25 lead at the half. Alameda's only success came in transition, as Puckett sprung for 10 points. Goodwin had seven and Jefferies had all of his six in the first half.

"We knew by watching the JV game how their (Alameda's) offense was run," Hernandez said. "Our guards had to pressure the ball so I could get down the floor for defense." When Hernandez got in to position, Alameda was forced into a set offense and died. When he didn't, the Hornets got some easy baskets.

But a funny thing happened on the way to the second half. Alameda's offense disappeared. Except for Puckett, who had 19 points, no other Hornet scored until Goodwin hit a free throw with 2:51 left in the game and Albany up 47-35. Goodwin had three points in the second half; otherwise it was Puckett.

"That's not the way it's supposed to go," Alameda coach Ed Ruiz said about

Prep boys' basketball

Albany	53
Alameda	47

the disparity. "Our seniors have to play better. We can't win games like this."

Albany challenged Puckett, but didn't change its defense one iota. Puckett was not going to win the game for Alameda. "We didn't see a reason to change just for one player," Kagawa said. "We just wanted to challenge him on every shot and make him hit it."

Both Hernandez and Amos were on Puckett at times. "It did worry me at one point," Hernandez said. "He was hitting a lot of tough shots. But he wasn't getting any help."

Alameda's best chance came with 1:18 remaining and Albany ahead 51-45. Goodwin missed a shot, grabbed his own rebound and drove down the lane unimpeded by a layup. He missed it, but a furious Kagawa called time to reemphasize some defensive ideas.

At that point, neither team had scored in three minutes, but Goodwin fouled Hernandez, who hit one of two free throws for 52-45. The second free throw was missed, but the ball went off an Alameda player and Albany retained possession.

The Cougars committed a turnover and Puckett gave Alameda its last gasp with a driving layup for 52-47 with 33 seconds left. Alameda was forced to foul and Evan Hiraga hit one of two free throws with 11 seconds left for the final margin.

Too many Cougars. Too few Hornets. That was the story of this one.

Panthers slip past Pilots

STAFF REPORTER

BERKELEY — Powered by two goals from Nicole Griffin, the St. Mary's girls' soccer team defeated St. Joseph 3-1 in a nonleague match.

Griffin scored both her goals from the right side, just outside the box.

"Nicole has a very powerful right foot, and she has been using it to her advantage," St. Mary's coach Luis Porras said.

The Pilots closed the gap to 2-1 when returning All-Leaguer Adrianna Diaz beat two defenders and scored one-on-one with the goalie with about 3 1/2 minutes to go in the first half.

But Kimberly McConnell came right back, knocking the final goal of the match less than five minutes into the second half.

The win raised the Panthers' record to 3-3-1.

Prep boys soccer

EL CERRITO — James McDermott scored off an assist by Michael Gonzalez just seven minutes into the match and El Cerrito's defense held on to beat Berean Christian 1-0 in a nonleague match.

Mark Richardson made four saves for the Gauchos (6-3-2) and Miguel Schiapapietra had seven saves for Berean Christian (3-2-1).

Ringing in the new season

The holiday is ringing in a gift bag full of hoops to get the season rolling. There are teams starting the season jolly and bright and others wondering why they got a lump of coal.

Our boys football poll ended with De La Salle on top. Problem is, our boy's basketball poll is starting with De La Salle on top. The Spartans are off to a sparkling start on the court, beating some of the Bay Area's best teams in their own Chris Vontour Classic. De La Salle picked up wins over St. Joe's and St. Ignatius at a time when St. Nick is still the dunk king (though he prefers chimneys to hoops). Guard Joe See had a great summer league season and is proving he can play in winter too.

It was truly a Charles Brown Christmas in the title game. Brown led the Spartans with 17 points and was named tournament MVP. Matt Gutierrez played like Pig Pen, doing all the dirty work for De La Salle underneath. St. Ignatius is one of the top two or three teams in the CCS and will be in the top five in our Bay Area wide poll.

The Hayward Area Athletic League made its bid as one of the toughest around, with impressive wins in holiday tournaments around the state. It wasn't quite the north poll, but Arroyo did travel to Fort Bragg and beat previously unbeaten Chico 61-43. Marcus Williams was the scoring leader with 23 points, Jim Strom was tournament MVP.

San Leandro was equally impressive, beating host Washington in the finals of the Husky Invitational. The Pirates had a 62-53 lead late in the third, but Washington battled back to within two. Then the Pirates' Shawn Broadmax



ROBERT BRAUNSTEIN

Focus on Sports

turned the momentum back to San Leandro with a steal and high-flying dunk to give the Pirates a four-point lead. The 6-foot-3 point guard had 24 points in the game leading all scorers.

Logan pulled a big surprise on Skyline. The Colts had not used the Ting twins much in their early season. The Colts lost their first four games. Against Skyline, Logan head coach Blake Chong decided to pour on a heavy dose of defensive pressure. Brandon and Ryan Ting won't be confused with Shag, but what they lack in height they make up for in quickness. Along with Martin Boston and Jonathan Brooks the Titans from Logan were able to slow down the Titans from Skyline and come away with a 43-42 win. Their reward? The Colts now travel to Maui to play in the Maui Classic. Why do I never get invited to these things?

Moreau Catholic beat Irvington in the consolation final of the Irvington shootout and San Lorenzo made it to the title game of the Half Moon Bay tournament, only to lose to the host team. All this said, Bishop O'Dowd and Hayward are expected to be the best teams in the Hayward league.

In the girls' corner, three teams will dominate East Bay hoops this year. The Division I Berkeley Yellowjackets will again be the team to beat. Berkeley's star is Robin Roberson, despite being weakened

by an illness early in the season, Roberson has persevered. Roberson scored 26 points in the Yellowjacket tourney final. Berkeley is now 5-0 to start the season. Head coach Gene Nakamura has complained about his teams' offensive performance this year, but he says the defense is right on target.

Amador Valley is the best team in Division II. The Dons won their tournament this week. The most impressive win was the game I shot for KCIU-TV with Amador dominating St. Francis from Mountain View. Mia Fisher scored 29 in the game, showing the crowd this is her team, this is her year. Fisher has it all, a great shooting touch, the ability to drive and score, and she is one of the best passers in the nation.

Mia also has a commanding presence on the court. You know she is great, but just try and stop her. Amador has a supporting cast that can play ferocious defense, and shoot from anywhere on the court. Keep your eye on little Stevie Kernan, who is a hard-nosed defender. Once again this year, Stevie will play on the Amador basketball and soccer teams.

Redwood Christian surprised a lot of people by winning the Division V state title last season. But now the Eagles will surprise no one. Redwood Christian played Granada in the finals of the Lady Hornets Invitational in Alameda Saturday night. The score was 40-20 Eagles at the half. Leah Thornton scored 26 for the Eagles, who are 3-0 on the season.

More holiday tournaments for the next few weeks. We'll have lots of it on Sports Focus Saturday night at 7 and Sunday morning at 8:30 as we concentrate on winter sports starting this week.

Salsig

FROM PAGE C1

book to advance knowledge of the golf swing, and the golfer of average intelligence has always found that knowledge useful. It needs no further interpretation from a Leadbetter, who talks down to anyone who cannot break 80.

But listening to Leadbetter explain how he applied Hogan's knowledge to his own theories on the golf swing is well worth the price of the book.

The Missing Links by Daniel Wexler (Sleeping Bear Press) is a wonderful coffee table book on lost

golf courses and holes. Claude Harmon talked of The Libo as the best golf course in America. It's fate, as well as the fate of other lost masterpieces of golf architecture, is described in this superbly illustrated book.

Of local interest, Wexler describes Alister MacKenzie's Sharp Park Golf Course in Pacifica as the fulfillment of a MacKenzie dream. Unfortunately, very soon after the course opened in 1932, a storm washed out his signature holes and they never were replaced. The book explains the history, begging for restoration of original holes like the 10th, MacKenzie's first and only double fairway.

The First Chapbook for

SPORTS BRIEFS

Winter schedules needed

The Hills Newspapers need schedules for high school winter sports. Please fax schedules to 339-4066.

Golf camps

Nike Junior Holiday Golf Camps will take place at two East Bay locations this month. Two-day camps will be held at Tilden Park Golf Course in Berkeley on Dec. 16-17, Dec. 19-20 and Dec. 27-28; and at Monarch Bay Golf Club (formerly San Leandro Golf Club) on Dec. 27-28. The camps are open to boys and girls 7-17. Cost is \$149 per student. More information on the camps is available by calling 877-312-4653. More information on Nike Golf can be found at www.nikegolf.com.

BASHOF Youth Fund grants

Applications are still available for Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame Youth Fund grants for 2001. Youth organizations and schools may apply for these grants to provide sports equipment. Call 415-352-8827 to receive a grant application. Allow two weeks. Deadline for returning completed applications is Jan. 31, 2001. Grants will be distributed in summer 2001.

Stars to the Rescue

Milbone and the Oakland A's will present Stars to the Rescue from 7-10:30 p.m. at the Paramount Theatre on Jan. 20. Former A's manager Tony LaRussa will help celebrate three generations of Oakland A's. Celebrity guests will include Michael Bolton,

Richard Marx, Dennis DeYoung, Jimi Jamison, Tom Johnston and members of the Doobie Brothers. Tickets cost \$35, \$50 and \$100 and are available by calling 625-8497. For \$300 premium tickets, which includes a reception after the event, please call 925-296-3144. For additional celebrity confirmations and show information, call 925-977-7900, extension 399. Proceeds will benefit the Animal Rescue Foundation.

Hispanic baseball exhibit

The Hispanic Heritage Baseball Museum presents its first exhibit at the San Francisco Civic Center Public Library Skyrium, January 25-March 25, 2001. Further details will soon be announced.

Baseball sign-ups

The El Cerrito Youth Baseball League will hold open registration from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Harding Park Clubhouse on Saturday, Dec. 16. Registration packets are also available at the El Cerrito Community Center or by calling 527-5505. The league is open to boys and girls

SCOREBOARD

Basketball

PREP BOYS

Albany 53, Alameda 47
Albany (3-3)
Ken Mimoto 2-0-0, David Hernandez 1-2-17, Evan Hiraga 1-1-3, Matt Hansen 3-0-0, James Amos 5-0-0-1, Danny Ho 4-0-0, Matt Ball 1-0-0, Isaac Chan 2-0-0-4 Totals 25-23-53
Alameda (5-4)
Eric Wilkens 3-0-0, Jason Goodwin 4-2-4, Matt Puckett 13-0-29, Jose Avila 1-0-0-2, P.J. Silva 0-0-0, Joseph Park 0-0-0, Josh Silva 0-0-0, Mike Koorhagen 0-0-0, Tobias 21-2-47
Albany 18 19 13 6-53
Alameda 12 13 9 13-47

3-point goals: Amos, Puckett. Fouled out: Amos, P.J. Silva

Nonleague

Berean Christian 50, Albany 39

Albany: Matt Ball 0-0-0, Ken Mimoto 6-6-10, Evan Hiraga 0-2-2, Isaac Chan 0-1-1, James Amos 0-0-0, Max Mc 0-0-0, Danny Ho 0-0-0, Matt Hansen 2-0-0-4, David Hernandez 3-0-16 Totals 11-22-39

Berean Christian (5-4)

Nick Spontano 0-0-0, Ryan Vigos 1-0-0-3, Andrew Sanders 0-0-0, Nate Leiser 1-2-4, Jon Tillison 0-1-2, Kyle Bundy 5-2-14, Travis Smith 0-0-0, Chuck Anderson 1-2-1, Jake Koster 4-7-10, Scott Groschel 0-2-2, Ashton Vidal 0-2-2 Totals 15-27-50

Albany 7 8 11 12-39

Berean Christian 14 8 11 27-50

3-point goals: Mimoto 5, Bundy 2, Vigos. Fouled out: Hernandez, Hiraga. Technical fouls: Bundy. Highlight: Koster 10 rebounds, Groschel 8 rebounds

Piedmont 54, San Marin 43

San Marin (2-4)

Booth 1-0-2, Downs 1-2-4, Fahy 9-6-30, Tevis 1-5-7, Tust 0-0-0, Glasgow 0-0-0, Gerrans 0-0-0 Totals 12-13-43

Piedmont (2-5)

Dave Beel 3-4-5, Terry Kay 0-2-2, Michael Stock 5-3-4, Jack Drenick 5-0-10, Mac Scott 2-0-4, Tim Browne 1-0-2, Jay Carson 0-2-2, Isaac Pugh 1-0-2, Max James 2-0-0, Halborn Adham 0-0-0, Jeff Kane 0-0-0, Dennis Gurney 0-0-0 Totals 19-15-54

San Marin 14 13 13 43

Piedmont 15 14 12 33-54

3-point goals: Fahy 6, Stock. Technical fouls: Tust, James, San Marin coach

St. Mary's 68, Monte Vista 54

St. Mary's (4-1)

Terrance Boyd 2-0-5, Matt Straus 1-2-5, Tim Fanning 0-4-1, John Sharper 4-0-2, DeShawn Frazier 0-1-3, Jeremiah Fielder 0-0-0, Chase Moore 12-1-42, Chris Marocco 0-0-0, Spargano Rodriguez 1-0-1, Simon Knight 1-0-2 Totals 27-16-68

Monte Vista (4-2)

Bradford 5-0-11, Wilson 11-2-23, Kussman 0-4-4, Berry 1-0-2, Gatty 4-5-10, Jones 2-4-7-8, Hicks 1-2-4, Miller 2-0-4, Melly 0-2-2, Coffer 2-2-6, Totals 18-17-54

St. Mary's 21 18 13 68

Monte Vista 17 6 13 54

3-point goals: Sharper 4, Boyd, Straus, Bradford

Sandringham 71, Richmond 55

Sandringham (5-1)

Dennis Danouros 3-0-8, Oliver Doyle 0-0-0, Liam Tighe 5-0-10, Simon Anderson 3-1-7, Sean Coote 2-0-4, Marcus Abbott 1-0-2, Stuart Hamilton 1-2-4, Nick Edin 2-0-5, Nathan Deeming 2-3-7, Karl Boehm 3-0-7, David Moore 7-5-19 Totals 29-11-71

Richmond (0-4)

Leonard Neal 1-0-2, Damien Carter 11-2-24, Clemeth Loggins 2-2-7, Tyke Moore 11-2-23, Elgha Adams 0-0-0, Tazul Waqar 4-0-8, Kamathi Harris 3-0-6, Michael Hall 2-1-2-5 Totals 24-9-65

Sandringham 20 18 17 71

Richmond 12 8 17 55

3-point goals: Edlin, Boehm, Loggins. Fouled out: Waqar.

National Prep Basketball Poll

The top 25 national and top 10 regional high school basketball teams as selected by scholastic sports expert Jeremy Prowman and a national panel of 35 prep sportswriters, with records through Dec. 10:

NATIONAL

1. Oak Hill-Mouth of Wilson, Va. (7-0)

2. Westridge-Sugar Land, Texas (14-0)

3. Mater Dei-Santa Ana, Calif. (14-0)

4. St. Patrick's-Elizabeth, N.J. (0-0)

5. Dillard-Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (5-0)

6. Montrose Christian-Sarasota, Fla. (2-0)

7. Jackson-S. Louis (4-0)

8. Berkmar-Liburn, Ga. (4-0)

9. St. Vincent-St. Mary-Avon, Ohio (3-0)

10. Midwest City, Okla. (2-0)

11. De La Salle (5-0)

12. DeLaSalle-Hyattsville, Md. (5-0)

13. St. Anthony-Jersey City, N.J. (0-0)

14. White Station-Memphis, Tenn. (5-0)

15. Bishop Gorman-Las Vegas (4-0)

16. Camden, N.J. (0-0)

17. Vincent-Milwaukee (2-0)

18. St. Raymond's-Bronx, N.Y. (0-1)

19. Rice-Manhatten, N.Y. (1-0)

20. Male-Louisville, Ky. (2-0)

21. Westchester-Los Angeles (5-0)

22. Julian-Chicago (2-1)

23. Dominguez-Compton (5-1)

24. Southern-Baltimore (2-0)

25. Jefferson-Portland, Ore. (1-1)

West Coast

1. Mater Dei-Santa Ana 5-0

2. De La Salle 3-0

3. Westchester-Los Angeles 5-0

4. Dominguez-Compton 5-1

PREP GIRLS

Piedmont 66, Las Lomas 40

Piedmont (4-3)

M. Leahy 2-1-5, G. Phelps 5-7-23, A. Flato 1-1-3, A. Richardson 5-2-12, M. Linquist 2-3-12, K. Leahy 1-1-1, P. Pans 2-2-6, L. Bowing 2-0-4 Totals 23-14-66

Las Lomas (1-1)

Jessica Zupan 0-0-0, Rachel Harrington 1-0-1, Beth Scott 0-0-0, Kelly Kellen 0-0-0, Carrie Steinberg 1-0-2, Joe Sanderson 0-0-0, Dakota Conrad 0-0-0, Lindsey Steele 0-0-0, Emily Neuve 6-2-3-15, Tess Unnam 1-0-2, Faron Lewis 0-0-1, Gully Friz 1-1-3 Totals 10-3-40

Piedmont 15 18 13 66

Las Lomas 13 7 16 40

3-point goals: M. Linquist 2, Neuve. Fouled out: Lewis

, Thursday. Las Lomas vs. Hayward, 5 p.m., Piedmont vs. No. 10, 8 p.m.

Nonleague

El Cerrito 79, Terra Linda 30

Terra Linda (1-0)

Time Calabala 1-0-2, Michi Huston 0-0-0, Stephanie Fanc 0-0-0, Alison Stauffer 1-0-2, Lauren Schwartz 0-0-0, Lindsey Kamarchak 0-0-0, Lindsey Price 1-4-7, Tamara Smith 4-5-13, Eric Panto 0-0-0, Margo Daniels 1-1-3, Rachel Fanc 2-0-4 Totals 10-17-30

El Cerrito (6-3)

Dustin Nowlin 0-0-2, Joanne Major 1-0-2, Melissa Stahl 2-0-2, Stephanie Weller 2-0-4, L. Goldschmidt 0-1-1, J. Kim Jones 2-0-4, Trina Nagazura 1-0-2, Rebecca Zarchy 1-0-2 Totals 10-17-30

LICK-WILMERING

Breen 2-0-4, Au 1-0-3, Creager 3-2-6, Baron-Ross 1-0-2, Kaues 1-0-2, Gooden 2-0-4, Hardin 0-1-2, Davis-Hitchens 6-2-12, Heber 5-0-13, Jefferson 1-1-3 Totals 24-15-52

Albany 63, El Cerrito 24

Albany (1-5)

Nina Samuel 3-1-7, Christina Dardait 1-0-2, Emily Tang 0-2-2, Rachel 4-0-3, Marquette Green 2-0-4, Yvonne Brown 12-3-27, Brianna Davis 3-0-8, Latesha Hagler 1-1-3, Jeana Radosevich 0-0-0, Analisa McSwain 1-0-2, Rozetta Henderson 2-1-2, Jordan McConline 0-0-0 Totals 33-5-79

Terra Linda 13, El Cerrito 0

Terra Linda 13 0 0 13

El Cerrito 23 14 20 22-79

3-point goals: Nowlin 4, Stahlworth 2, Davis 2

Lick-Wilmering 52, Albany 24

Albany (1-5)

Nina Samuel 3-1-7, Christina Dardait 1-0-2, Emily Tang 0-2-2, Rachel 4-0-3, Marquette Green 2-0-4, Yvonne Brown 12-3-27, Brianna Davis 3-0-8, Latesha Hagler 1-1-3, Jeana Radosevich 0-0-0, Analisa McSwain 1-0-2, Rozetta Henderson 2-1-2, Jordan McConline 0-0-0 Totals 33-5-79

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Arts

BILL MANN

Media Notes

Another solid anchor leaving

It's not so much that three local TV anchors are leaving within the span of a month; it's that the ones who are going are such class acts.

We could lose KGO's well-dressed humanoid Dan "White" Noyes, KNTV's once-rejected Terilyn-Joe, or KPIX's Roberta Gonzales; to name but three examples, and few would care. But KRON's Suzanne Shaw and KPIX's Dave McElhatton, who retired two weeks ago, are a vanishing breed. And now, a third is leaving.

Next week, on Dec. 22, 11-year Channel 5 vet Brian Sussman will do his last newscasts. He's leaving the TV business for the right reason: To spend more time with his growing family. He says he'll be doing name consulting.

When he arrived at KPIX in 1989 from Pittsburgh (then-Channel 5 GM Carolyn Wean had been his boss in Steeltown and brought him here), "Suss" seemed pleasant but unremarkable. I remember making a snide observation at the time that Sussman was a Buck Owens look-alike.

But soon, Sussman began to grow on you: Like departed KRON-TV anchor Mark Thompson (now at the Foxnet doing Guinness shows, et al), Sussman was witty and funny, and he never took himself too seriously.

His weekly "Brian's Kids" segment, which finds homes for hard-to-adopt kids, seemed like the kind of perfunctory public-service project local anchors are often encouraged to do. Then, one day at lunch with Sussman, I found out that he'd put his money where his mouth is — he and his wife had adopted one of Brian's Kids. Three years before, when KRON news anchor Roz Abrams (who now works at a New York City station) had done the same thing after hosting a similar segment on Channel 4, Sussman picked up the slack — and the important segment — when Abrams died.

The Sussmans recently adopted a second, a 5-year-old boy, another of Brian's Kids, giving them four children. So it's little wonder that "Suss" wants more family time — something a demanding TV career makes little room for. Sussman was doing all of KPIX's nightly newscasts — the 5, 5:30, 6:30 and 11 — and with his kids off at school during the day, the affable weatherman wasn't seeing nearly as much of Brian's real kids as he wanted. His announcement about leaving KPIX surprised not his colleagues and management there, I'm told. But knowing the kind of devoted Dad Sussman is, wasn't a surprise to me.

Need more proof that Sussman is class act?

Five years ago, when CBS (now "room") bought KPIX, it wanted to promote CBS-owned sister radio station all-news KCBS on KPIX's air. And Sussman agreed, and still does weekday forecasts on KCBS's afternoon-drive news. But he told me back then flatly, "I will not take Mike Pechner's job."

Pechner is KCBS' talented, indefatigable meteorologist and a pal of Sussman's. And in this cost-cutting age in TV and radio, it was a distinct possibility that the radio station, which was then in a cost-cutting mode, would simply dump Pechner and try to use Sussman all day. But Sussman made it clear he wouldn't do that, and it benefited both stations to have solid, full-time forecasters.

Says a grateful Pechner, "Brian has always been a classy guy. I will always appreciate what he did for me."

Speaking of class acts, in the past year, besides McElhatton and KRON's Shaw, we've also lost such old pros as KCBS's Al Hart (KCBS), Jim Dunbar (KGO Radio) and Jim Mason (KSFO) to retirement. And there aren't that many people left in local broadcasting who have their talent, experience and professionalism.

As for who'll replace Sussman, two well-regarded local TV meteorologists are interested in the job: One is long-time local TV forecaster Steve Paulson, now working weekdays on Oakland's KIVU. Another is one-time KPIX, KRON and KGO-TV forecaster Steve Newman. Newman, who also did regular reports for cable's Discovery Channel and whose "Earth Watch" environmental column runs in newspapers around the world, retired from local TV three years ago to become a big-rig

See MANN, Page C5



GEOFF HOYLE, left, and Jacob Basri, center, rehearse a juggling scene from "The Christmas Revels" at the Scottish Rite Theater in Oakland

Commedia dell'arte — according to Hoyle

Performer revels in physical comedy and smart, satiric style

By Pat Craig
STAFF WRITER

He is, in a very real sense, the last banana in a bunch that preceded him by more than a half-century.

Geoff Hoyle is a clown, a rough-and-tumble physical comic, who plays the fool big, broad and hilarious — and directly from the heart — in a world where there are no top bananas left.

If time had been sliced a bit differently, if he'd been born a few decades earlier, he would probably have been a busker, a barnstorming traveling man who parlayed a music hall and vaudeville career into movies and maybe a golden-age TV stint, passing that sort of comedy down to another generation.

But Hoyle was the other generation, the kid growing up in the '50s and '60s idolizing the old baggy-pants boys who brought a lifetime of split weeks and headlining in Altona into your living room every

week.

For Hoyle, who grew up in England, the heroes had different names: Tony Hancock; Morcombe & Wise. But they wielded the same comic stick as names Hoyle became familiar with later — Jackie Gleason; Phil Silvers; Sid Caesar. They were the comic titans on this side of the Atlantic, and the guys who inspired him to carry slapstick into the 21st century.

But it was the era in which he came of age — the late '60s and '70s — that infused him with a social and political philosophy. And both those things have continued to influence and mold the Bay Area actor, whose style and sensibility allow him to move comfortably between the Broadway stage and performance pieces like his current show, "The Christmas Revels," the Bay Area's community holiday celebration now playing in Oakland.

His Christmas Revels appearance this year, his third, plus a fourth last year in a New York version, places him in a commedia dell'arte mode, where he is right at home.

"It certainly is a good chunk of what I like to be doing," he says. "Physical performance and its implied aesthetic of being subversive."

See HOYLE, Page C5

'Revels' destination 2000: Italy during Renaissance

By Pat Craig
STAFF WRITER

CELEBRATING the winter solstice Bay-Area style, "The Christmas Revels," playing in Oakland through next weekend, offers a little something for everyone's holiday season.

Designed not to be a religious event, "Revels," instead, celebrates the solstice by looking at various ways the longest night of the year is marked by cultures throughout the world. The event draws its themes from the myth and ritual of cultures including Mesoamerican, medieval, Middle-European, African-American, Southern and Appalachian.

This year, specifically, the tale will center on Renaissance Italy, with commedia dell'arte and a troupe of traveling players (featuring Geoff Hoyle, Rene Collins and Joan Mankin) who perform their way across Europe and the Silk Route to Asia.

Along with that are performances by early-music specialists Shira Kammen, Cheryl Ann Fulton and Peter

PREVIEW

- **WHAT:** "The Christmas Revels"
- **WHERE:** Scottish Rite Theater, 1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakland
- **WHEN:** Dec. 15-17,
- **HOW MUCH:** \$15-\$30, with senior and child discounts
- **CALL:** 510-601-8932

Maund, and a narrative on Black Madonna figures throughout the world. What gives the piece its flavor and spirit, though, is the participation of volunteer performers from the community. Adults and children from throughout the Bay Area, many of whom have little performing experience, give the show its cast-of-thousands feel.

This narrative piece was developed by China Galland, a nationally recognized author and expert on Dark,

See PREVIEW, Page C5

Bay Area historic house museums Christmas activities — through Dec. 31.

Carron-Stanford House — The Carron-Stanford House, a stately 1876 Italianate-style home which was at one time the Oakland Public Museum, has been restored and furnished with appropriate period furnishings by the Carron-Stanford House Preservation Association. It is the last Victorian mansion on Lake Merritt's shore. It has five period rooms, lavishly furnished.

Special Events — "Oh! What a Beautiful Tree," through Dec. 30. The 12-foot tree will be decorated with garlands and hand made cornucopias, antique ornaments, baskets of nuts, and American flags. The design was taken from an article in "Godey's Ladies Book," Dec. 1860. Tours available Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$4 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 juniors age 12 to 18; free children under age 12. 14th Street and Lakeside Drive, Oakland. (510) 444-1876

Cohen Bray House — An Eastlake Stick-style Victorian built in 1884 and occupied continuously by descendants of the first owner. Contains original wallpaper, carpets and furniture. The house will be decorated for the holidays.

Special Event — "Holiday Tea and Tour," Dec. 30. Tea sittings are at 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. By reservation only. \$20 general; \$15 seniors and youths. 1440 29th Ave., Oakland. (510) 843-2906

Dunsuir House and Gardens Historic Estate — Nestled in the Oakland hills, the 40-acre Dunsuir House and Gardens estate includes the three-floor, 37-room Neoclassical Revival Dunsuir Mansion, built by coal and lumber baron Alexander Dunsuir for his bride. The mansion has a Tiffany-style dome and is surrounded by restored outbuildings set amid landscaped gardens.

Special Events — "Christmas at Dunsuir," through Dec. 17. This annual fund-raising event features tours of the house decorated magnificently for the holidays with elegant ornaments, holiday trees, garlands, and wreaths. There are also holiday teas, luncheons and dinners as well as horse-drawn carriage rides through the grounds family entertainment, stilt walkers, puppet shows, caroling, and gift and craft vendors. Father Christmas will be on hand to talk to the children. Luncheons, dinners and teas require reservations. Friday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (925) 275-9490

Admission and House Tour: \$10 general; \$9 seniors; \$6 youths age 6 to 13; free children under age 6. **Holiday Luncheons:** In the New Garden Pavilion. \$16 per person. **Holiday Teas:** In Dinkelspiel House. \$18

Holiday Pub Dinners: In Dinkelspiel House. \$20
Holiday Marquee Dinners: In Lawn Tent. \$35

EVENTS

Berkeley Potters Guild 29th Annual Holiday Sale — through Dec. 24. Artists' workspaces are transformed into festive showrooms where each artist displays a large selection and full range of their works.

Free. Dec. 16 through Sunday, Dec. 24, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 731 Jones St., Berkeley. (510) 524-7031

The 17th Annual Telegraph Avenue Holiday Street Fair — Dec. 16 through Dec. 24. Featuring more than 200 street artists, merchants, and community groups offering unique and unusual handcrafts. Free. Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Telegraph Avenue, between Brancroft and Dwight Ways, Berkeley. (510) 528-6983

Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studios — through Dec. 17. A self-guided tour presenting an opportunity to meet the artists, and to see working craft studios.

Free. Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Map of locations available at 1250 Addison St., Suite 214, Berkeley. (510) 845-2612 or www.berkeleyartisans.com

Jack London Square Community Menorah Lighting — Dec. 21, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Featuring live music, dancing, storytelling and the lighting of the Menorah. Free. Foot of Broadway, Oakland. (510) 814-6000 or www.jacklondon-square.com

Berkeley Art Center — "Against All Odds: Ingenuity, Talent and Disability," closing Dec. 16. An exhibit of media ranging from prints and ceramic sculpture to computer-generated paintings and collage work using adaptive art-making techniques.

Free. Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Live Oak Park, 1275 Walnut St., Berkeley. (510) 644-6893

Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studios — closing Dec. 17. A self-

See EVENTS, Page C5

Mel's 'What Women Want'

Skip the trailers and see the flick, which shows, among other things, that at least one tough guy does dance

By Vera H-C Chan
STAFF WRITER

If our cynical, wisecracking age can withstand it, "What Women Want" is one of the best arguments for the return of the musical.

Mel Gibson's newest comic venture is straight out of pre-1965 Hollywood cinema. As Nick Marshall, the grown-up son of a Las Vegas showgirl (or showwoman, as the case may be), Gibson plays a ladies' man weaned on cocktails and Frank Sinatra lullabies. Surrounded by buxom women in tassels and Mafia chauvinists in his tender years, the charismatic yet egomaniacal ad man is indeed the product of his upbringing. So when he inadvertently establishes a psychic network with women far beyond what Dionne Warwick could ever dream, he enters a universe he never knew existed.

Incidentally, "What Women Want" has been done a disservice by its trailers, so close your eyes if they flash by on your television or theater screen. It parades the crassest lines

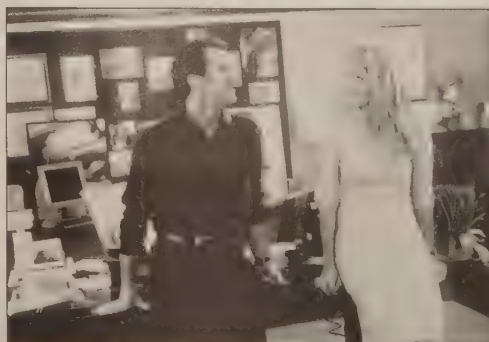
REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "What Women Want"
- **STARRING:** Mel Gibson, Helen Hunt, Alan Alda, Marisa Tomei
- **RATING:** PG-13 (sexual content and language)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 3 minutes
- **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
- **GRADE:** B+

and boils the psychic-link scenario down to a puerile gimmick, like those X-ray glasses advertised in the back of old action-adventure comic books. Rather than the cynicism of a sledgehammer, director Nancy Meyers instead sustains a funny and clever momentum out of what could have been sheer farce.

From the start, Sinatra's vocals lay down the finger-snapping, toe-tapping rhythm as Marshall quickly establishes himself as the classic arrogant charmer who needs Doris Day or Ginger Rogers to take him down.

At the coffee shop, he jabs a comely woman's coffee so he can dab at the stain on her chest before he hits on the counter girl, Lola (Marisa Tomei). He barrels through



HELEN HUNT is one of the women whose minds Mel Gibson can read in "What Women Want."

the ad agency late with a twinkle in his eye and an obscene (and misogynist) joke on his lips. In between displays of this behavior, we see his ex-wife (Lauren Holly) getting ready for her second marriage, and talking to her bridesmaid about her first husband: He's a man's man, which means "he's the kind of man who doesn't know what women want."

Besides celebrating his ex-wife's wedding day, Marshall has a champagne bottle primed and a celebra-

tory lunch reserved with co-worker Morgan (Mark Feuerstein) because he thinks he's getting the job of creative director. What the brain behind the bikini beer ads hasn't realized is that in the last decade, the industry has become a women's marketplace. The 16- to 24-year-old female segment, says big boss Dan Wanamaker (Alan Alda) in a meeting with Marshall, is the fastest-growing con-

See WOMEN, Page C5

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Titles and showtimes subject to change.
Call theaters for information.
Compiled by: Hollywood.com

★ Wheelchair Accessible

Showtimes for Friday, December 15.

Alameda County

Act 1 & II

Center St. at Shattuck, Berkeley 843-FILM
● Best in Show (PG-13) 7:10, 9:20
● Requiem for a Dream (NR) 7:00, 9:30

Albany Twin

Scenic at San Pablo Ave., Albany 843-FILM
● Billy Elliot (R) 6:45, 9:00
● You Can Count on Me (R) 6:30, 8:45

California Theatres

On Kintredge at Shattuck, Berkeley 843-FILM
● The 6th Day (PG-13) 2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40
● Meet the Parents (PG-13) 2:10, 4:30, 6:45, 9:10
● Quills (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:35

Century 25 Union City Union Landing★

32100 Union Landing Road, Union City 487-9593
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 11:25 a.m., 2:30, 4:40, 7:15
● The 6th Day (PG-13) 4:35, 7:40, 10:15
● Bounce (PG-13) 7:05, 9:30
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 11:35 a.m., 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:35

● Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 12:15, 1:55, 3:25, 4:45, 6:20, 7:45, 9:15, 10:20, 11:55, 11:30 AM
12:25, 1:05, 1:35, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 5:25, 6:25, 7:30, 8, 8:45, 9:50, 10:15, 10:45, 11:45

● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 11:55 a.m., 12:45, 1:45, 2:35, 3:20, 5:10, 6:15, 8:00, 9:05, 10:30
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 11:20 a.m. noon, 1:20, 2:15, 3:10, 4:20, 5:30, 6:30, 7:35, 8:35, 9:30, 10:35
● A Hard Day's Night (1964) (NR) 11:45 a.m., 2:25, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 11:50

● Meet the Parents (PG-13) 12:05, 2:40, 5:05, 7:55, 10:25
● Proof of Life (R) 11:40 a.m., 12:20, 12:55, 2:55, 4:15, 6:10, 6:50, 7:25, 9:20, 10:40
● Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G) 11:40 a.m., 1:50, 5:00

● Unbreakable (PG-13) 11:50 a.m., 2:30, 5:15, 8:10, 9:40, 10:40
● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 11:55 a.m., 12:50, 2:20, 3:50, 4:50, 5:45, 7:00, 7:50, 8:50, 10:00, 10:45, 11:45

● What Women Want (PG-13) 11:25 a.m., 12:10, 10:10, 2:20, 3:00, 4:00, 5:10, 6:00, 7:10, 8:15, 9:10, 10:10, 10:10, 11:20

Chabot Cinema

2853 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley 582-2555
● What Women Want (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45

Elmwood

2565 College Avenue, Berkeley 649-0330
● Almost Famous (R) 9:35
● The Contender (R) 4:35
● Men of Honor (R) 7:10
● Nurse Betty (R) 4:40, 9:10

● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 7:05, 9:15
● Venus Beauty Institute (Venus Beauty Institute) (NR) 7:00

Fine Arts Cinema - Berkeley★

2551 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 848-1143
● Georgetown (NR) 9:00
● Surfing for Life (NR) 7:30

Grand Lake Theater

1000 Grand Avenue, Oakland 452-3556
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 12:25, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00
● Bounce (PG-13) 9:15
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 8:15, 8:15, 10:15

● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 12:30, 3:35, 5:40, 8:00
● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) noon, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
● Meet the Parents (PG-13) 1:00, 6:00

Jack London Cinema★

100 Washington St., Oakland 433-1320
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 11:20 a.m., 1:50, 4:25, 7:10
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 7:05, 9:30
● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 11:25 a.m., 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00

● Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13) 11:10 a.m., 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 11:00 a.m., 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:55

● Proof of Life (R) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
● Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G) 11:30 a.m., 1:45, 4:00
● Unbreakable (PG-13) 11:35 a.m., 2:15, 4:55, 7:30, 10:25

● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 2:05, 5:00, 7:55, 9:45, 10:50
● What Women Want (PG-13) 11:05 a.m., 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:35

Festival 9 Cinemas Hayward★

19901 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 785-8000
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 11:20 a.m., 1:45, 4:15, 7:00
● Bounce (PG-13) 7:20, 9:45, 10:15
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 11:45 a.m., 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15

● Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 8:00, 10:20
● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:10, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 12:30, 2:40, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30

● Meet the Parents (PG-13) 2:00, 7:30
● Men of Honor (R) 11:10 a.m., 4:30, 9:50
● Proof of Life (R) 11:00 a.m., 12:45, 1:50, 4:00, 4:40, 7:40, 10:00, 10:00
● Remember the Titans (PG) 9:40

● Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G) noon, 2:15, 4:50

NAZ 8★

39400 Argonaut Way, Fremont 797-2000
● Asafura (NR) 11:00
● Ghost (NR) 7:00, 11:00, 5, 9
● Kabin Pyar Ho Ho Jaaye (NR) 5:00, 9:00

● Khalisa Mere Roop Hai Khaas (NR) 5:00, 9:00
● Mission Kashmir (NR) 5:00, 9:00, 7, 11
● Mohabbatein (NR) 9:00, 5

Oaks Theater★

1875 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 526-1836
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 7:00
● Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13) 6:00, 8:00, 9:45
● Remember the Titans (PG) 9:00

Piedmont Theatre

Piedmont at 41st, Oakland 843-FILM
● Billy Elliot (R) 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
● Quills (R) 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
● You Can Count on Me (R) 4:30, 7:15, 9:35

Shattuck Cinemas★

On Shattuck at Kintredge, Berkeley 843-FILM
● Bamboozled (R) 8:40
● Dancer in the Dark (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
● Dark Days (NR) 1:05, 3:15, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30

● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:50
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10
● Me & Isaac Newton (NR) 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40

● Panic (R) 1:30, 3:15, 5:20, 7:35, 9:35
● Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G) 12:40, 2:40, 4:40, 6:40
● Unbreakable (PG-13) 12:45, 1:50, 3:20, 4:35, 6:00, 7:15, 8:45, 9:45

● What's Cooking? (PG-13) 1:20, 4:00, 6:30, 9:15

UA Berkeley 7★

2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 843-1487
● Bounce (PG-13) 12:20, 2:50, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:45, 10:25
● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) noon, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05

● Proof of Life (R) 12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:10
● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 12:45, 4:00, 7:20, 10:20
● What Women Want (PG-13) 1:00, 2:05, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00

UA Emerybay 10★

6330 Christie Ave., Emeryville 420-0107
● The 6th Day (PG-13) 8:00, 10:40
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15, 12:30 a.m.

● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 10:50 a.m., 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45, 12:15 a.m.
● Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13) 10:45 a.m., 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00, 12:15 a.m.

● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) 10:45 a.m., 1:15, 4:10, 7:15, 9:50, 12:15 a.m.
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 10:30 a.m., 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40

● Proof of Life (R) 10:40 a.m., 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
● Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G) 10:55 a.m., 1:10, 3:40, 5:55

● Unbreakable (PG-13) 10:55 a.m., 1:25, 4:20, 7:10, 10:10, 12:30 a.m.
● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 10:50 a.m., 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10, 12:30 a.m.

● What Women Want (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20

UA Hayward 6★

24800 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 786-3000
● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:30, 11:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30

● Unbreakable (PG-13) 11:45 a.m., 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:10
● What Women Want (PG-13) 1:30, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:30

UC Theatre★

University Avenue between Milva Street and Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley 843-FILM
● Decalogue: 1 & 2 (NR)

Central Contra Costa

Festival Walnut Creek★

1450 N. California Blvd., Walnut Creek 934-8649
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 2:30, 4:55, 7:30
● Bounce (PG-13) 2:15, 4:45, 7:35, 10:00
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00

● Men of Honor (R) 9:50
● Proof of Life (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
● Unbreakable (PG-13) 2:45, 5:10, 7:45, 10:10

Orinda Theater★

4 Orinda Theater Square, Orinda 254-9060
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 7:00
● Best in Show (PG-13) 9:00
● Proof of Life (R) 6:45, 9:30
● Unbreakable (PG-13) 6:30, 8:45

Park Theater

3519 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette 283-7997
● Billy Elliot (R) 7:00, 9:30

Rheem All-Stadium 4★

3501 Redwood Ave., Alameda 888-3411
● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 4:40, 7:00, 8:45
● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 5:15, 7:45, 10:00

● What Women Want (PG-13) 4:50, 7:30, 9:50

West Contra Costa

Century 10 Pinole★

1800 Appian Way, Pinole 222-8030
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 11:35 a.m., 1:55, 4:15, 5:55
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 7:05, 9:35
● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 11:45 a.m., 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 10:00

● Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30, 5:25, 7:30, 9:45
● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) noon, 2:35, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30

● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 12:10, 2:00, 3:50, 5:40, 7:45, 9:55
● Proof of Life (R) 1:15, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15
● Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G) 1:50 a.m., 2:25, 4:55

● Unbreakable (PG-13) 11:55 a.m., 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20
● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 11:40 a.m., 2:15, 5:00, 7:35, 10:25
● What Women Want (PG-13) 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 10:00

San Francisco

AMC 1000 Van Ness★

1000 Van Ness, San Francisco (415)922-44MC
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 1:25, 4:15, 7:20, 10:00
● Crusty IV (NR) 10:30
● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 2:10, 5:20, 7:55, 10:35

● Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13) 1:00, 2:05, 3:20, 5:05, 6:45, 7:20, 8:15, 9:50, 10:45, 12:20 a.m.
● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) 1:15, 4:25, 7:35, 10:15
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40

● Proof of Life (R) 12:55, 1:40, 4:10, 4:50, 7:15, 8:00, 11:15, 11:55
● Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G) 2:20, 4:35
● Unbreakable (PG-13) 1:35, 4:45, 7:05, 9:40, 10:40

● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 1:05, 1:50, 4:05, 4:55, 7:10, 8:05, 10:10, 11:10, 12:35 a.m.
● What Women Want (PG-13) 12:45, 1:30, 4:00, 4:40, 7:00, 7:45, 10:05, 10:55, 12:30 a.m.

AMC Kabuki 8★

1891 Post St., San Francisco (415)922-44MC
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 12:30, 3:15, 5:35, 7:50
● The 6th Day (PG-13) 1:15, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 12:40, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10

● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:00, 10:30
● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) 1:20, 5:00, 7:35, 10:20
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:45, 10:45, 7:30, 9:45

● Men of Honor (R) 10:15
● Unbreakable (PG-13) 1:00, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50
● What Women Want (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30

Bridge★

3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco (415)352-0810
● You Can Count on Me (R) 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

Castro Theatre★

Castro and Market Streets, San Francisco (415)621-6120
● Boys Life 3 (NR) 7:00, 9:00

Clay

2261 Fillmore St., San Francisco (415)352-0810
● Billy Elliot (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55

Embarcadero★

1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco (415)352-0810
● Best in Show (PG-13) noon, 12:30, 2:15, 2:45, 4:30, 5:50, 7:30, 9:20, 9:50
● Quills (R) 12:15, 1:00, 3:30, 4:00, 6:30, 7:10, 9:30, 10:00

● Requiem for a Dream (NR) 12:10, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

Lumiere★

1572 California St., San Francisco (415)352-0810
● Dancer in the Dark (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:20
● A Hard Day's Night (1964) (NR) 12:45, 2:50, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

● Voyagers (NR) 11:50 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

Opera Plaza Cinemas★

601 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco (415)352-0810
● Dark Days (NR) 4:10, 8:40
● Me & Isaac Newton (NR) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30
● Panic (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45

● A Time For Drunken Horses (NR) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:50
● Venus Beauty Institute (Venus Beauty Institute) (NR) 1:10, 7:10

Red Vic★

1727 Haight St., San Francisco (415)668-3994
● Two Lane Blacktop (NR) 7:15, 9:25

Roxie★

3117 16th St., San Francisco (415)863-1087
● Coming to Light: Edward S. Curtis and the North American Indians (NR) 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
● The Underground Comedy Movie (NR) midnight

Sony Metreon★

10141 Market St., San Francisco (415)369-5200
● The 6th Day (PG-13) 11:05 a.m., 2:00, 5:30, 8:40, 11:40
● Bounce (PG-13) 1:20, 4:25, 7:35, 10:35
● Charlie's Angels (PG-13) 11:25 a.m., 2:40, 5:50, 9:00, 11:35

● Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) 11:30 a.m., 1:10, 2:20, 4:40, 5:40, 6:30, 9:20
● Dude, Where's My Car? (PG-13) 11:20 a.m., 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:10, 11:30

● Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30
● The Emperor's New Groove (G) 11:40 a.m., 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50

● Men of Honor (R) 11:10 a.m.
● Proof of Life (R) 12:40, 2:30, 3:50, 6:00, 7:10, 9:30, 10:40

● Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G) 12:10, 2:50, 5:20
● Unbreakable (PG-13) 1:20, 3:30, 6:40, 10:00
● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 11:50 a.m., 1:00, 3:10, 4:10, 6:20, 7:50, 9:40, 10:50

● What Women Want (PG-13) 12:30, 3:40, 7:00, 8:00, 10:20

Sony Metreon IMAX★

10141 Market St., San Francisco (415)369-5200
● Cirque Du Soleil - Journey of Man (G) 12:30, 6:20
● Cyberworld (G) 4:50
● Michael Jordan to the MAX (NR) 1:45, 7:35

● Vertical Limit (PG-13) 11:40

UA Galaxy★

1285 Sutter St., San Francisco (415)474-8700
● 102 Dalmatians (G) 12:15, 7:20, 9:45
● The 6th Day (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 1:40, 7:10, 10:00

● Bounce (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45, 7:00, 9:30
● Meet the Parents (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 1:45, 7:15, 10:00

Small useful gifts for the traveler

My mother-in-law was the first person to use the word *lagniappe* (lahn-yawp) in my presence. It was love at first hearing. A Creole term, the original meaning is a small gift a merchant gives a customer at the time of a purchase. Our family plays loose with the term, though. For us, a lagniappe is as any small, thoughtful present we care to bestow on another.

So, with a little help from friends and family, here are several holiday lagniappe suggestions that might appeal to the travelers and food lovers in your social circle.

My wife is a walking gift catalogue, and you can't stop her at just one suggestion. The Thomas Guide (California Road Atlas and Driver's Guide) by Rand McNally (800-899-MAPS) was her first. Indeed, it is a terrific gift for anyone who enjoys exploring the charms of our Golden State. A practical idea, I told her, but it lacked a certain je ne sais quoi.

Mary Ann then recommended anything that has the name De Beers attached to it. I took the hint and pleaded for something less costly. She rattled off a series of gift ideas—a romantic gondola adventure on Lake Merritt in Oakland (510-663-6603); an extremely useful little cookbook titled "City Egg/Country Egg" (Artisan Publishers) by Berkeley residents Gaby Pirie and John Clark; and a cooking class at Ramekin's in Sonoma (707-933-0450).

I stopped her there, fearing she would quickly return to the subject of De Beers. Sonoma Index-Tribune publisher, Bill Lynch, just returned from a trip abroad, recommended a pocket wine guide for travelers who do not recognize winemakers or appellations in other countries. There are several available at bookstores or wine shops.

The other handy tool he found essential during his travels was a



MIKE CLEARY

The Food and Travel Enthusiast

"Swiss Army Card." It's flat, about a 16th of an inch thick, about 2-by-3 inches and contains various useful tools. It sells for about \$20 at Sharper Image.

Our radio partners, Bill and Gerri Groady, gearing up for a trip to Nicaragua, chanced upon two items that are sure to please. One is a book with the amusing title of "The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook" by Joshua Piven and David Borgerich. I found it on Amazon.com for \$8.95. You learn to handle dicey situations you hope you're never in. How to take a punch, land a plane when the pilot has a heart attack and win a sword fight are some examples. My favorite is what to do when an alligator has his jaws closed on something you treasure, like your leg. According to the author's gator experts, tap or punch it on the snout and, voila, you're on your way. Perhaps, with a slight limp. The book's title might elicit a smile, but the contents are quite sound.

Gerri's gift idea is a winner. Re-sembling a beard trimmer when folded and about the same size, it's a reading lamp that attaches to the book you're reading. Called a Flip-lite, I found it at Barnes and Noble. This is one of those "one for her and one for me" gifts.

My recommendations? How about an olive tree? In Glen Ellen in historic Jack London Village is the Olive Press (800-9-OLIVE). It's worth a visit, but you can also order by phone. Request a catalogue. It's full of a wide array of oils, vinegars, artful containers and, of course, the trees. There are four varieties,

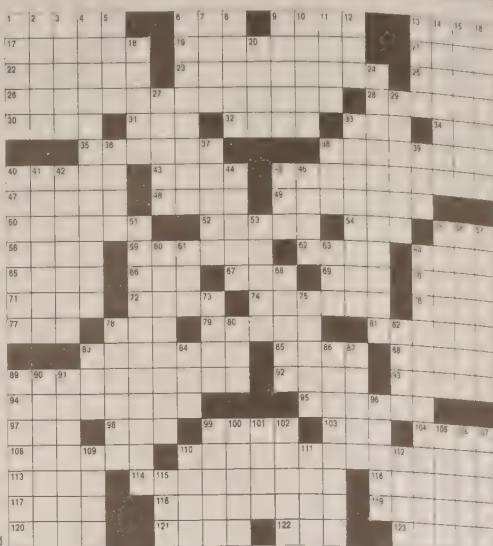
NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

INNER CIRCLES

- By Rich Norris / Edited by Will Shortz
- ACROSS**
- Doesn't just close
 - Morse bit
 - "This is fun!"
 - Not run
 - It's broken at parties
 - They're often kept in
 - Spike
 - Laser alternative
 - Like some vaults
 - Service expert
 - Fairness in hiring, say
 - One-dimensional
 - River through Belgium
 - Distress call recipient: Abbr.
 - Whirl
 - Fancy neckwear
 - Genetic code carrier
 - Sarcastic
 - Like cedarwood or cigar smoke
 - Coptic titles
 - Some TV's
 - Cutting tool
 - County north of the river Shannon
 - It's outstanding
 - Geometric figure
 - Rapid growth area
 - Alternative to buy
 - Apr. addressee
 - Computer site
 - Snidgen
 - Extras
 - "Love ____" (Beatles song)
 - "It Walks by Night" author
 - Part of E.R.: Abbr.
 - French vineyard
 - Albanian currency
 - Award for "Rent"
 - Toxin fighters
 - Caps
 - Certain duty
 - Dozes
 - Stab
 - It may follow a dot
 - Fan's opposite
 - Some Broadway fare
 - Personally bring
 - Calis, as a game
 - Clipped
 - Obliged out of integrity
 - Actress Ward
 - Sacs
 - Kind of mass, in physics
 - Villa in Mexico
 - Treat like a dog?
 - Antiquity, in antiquity
 - Balkan native
 - Rapid transit
 - Grandson of Eve
 - " ____ Beso" (Anka hit)
 - Family group
 - The Lizard constellation
 - Sea nymph
 - Retaining wall site
 - No longer on deck
 - Watch
 - Exchange employee
 - Scottish landowner
 - Foot in a line
 - Trite sayings
 - "Mm-hmm"
 - Gothic feature
 - Prefix with benzene
 - Singer Green and others
 - Hurting the most
 - Late ____
 - Usually it's not included
 - Back on the briny
 - \$200 Monopoly props.
 - 1905 Shaw play
 - Suffix with hip
 - Contempt
 - Exiled tyrant
 - Multitude
 - Erased
 - Like the fox hunting set
 - Grandson of Eve
 - " ____ Beso" (Anka hit)
 - Family group
 - The Lizard constellation
 - Sea nymph
 - Retaining wall site
 - No longer on deck
 - Watch
 - Exchange employee
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 - Late ____
 - Usually it's not included
 - Back on the briny
 - \$200 Monopoly props.
 - 1905 Shaw play
 - Suffix with hip
 - Contempt
 - Exiled tyrant
 - Multitude

DOWN

- Hot
- Brits' floor coverings
- Twist locale
- 1905 Shaw play
- Suffix with hip
- Contempt
- Exiled tyrant
- Multitude
- Erased
- Like the fox hunting set
- Grandson of Eve
- " ____ Beso" (Anka hit)
- Family group
- The Lizard constellation
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- Usually it's not included
- Back on the briny
- \$200 Monopoly props.
- 1905 Shaw play
- Suffix with hip
- Contempt
- Exiled tyrant
- Multitude



- Shakespearean title word
- Least interesting
- Symbols of free speech
- Mine artery
- Proceed without the words
- Teacher of Samuel
- Factory conduit
- Lumberjacks
- Place for a guard
- Weirdo
- Syndicate
- "Go on ..."
- Emulate Dürer
- ____ anglais (English horn)
- Actor Brynner
- How peaches may be served
- A fly-by-night?
- Longhairs
- New York city on the Susquehanna
- Like some television
- Flings
- Hägar the Horrible's dog
- Pronouncement
- Dawn-colored
- Merchant vessel officer
- Ban
- 1942 Pulitzer novelist Glasgow
- Coasters
- " ____ Tu" (1974 hit)
- Concept
- Dodge
- Ashtabula's lake
- Company that programmed Deep Blue

Events

FROM PAGE C5

10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. 942 Clay St., Oakland. (510) 625-1350.

Royal Ground Gallery — "Dynamic Expressions," through Jan. 1. A gallery exhibit of painting, collage, mixed media, photography and sculpture.

Free. Daily, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. 2058 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. (510) 339-0348.

Oakland Zoo — African Savanna, ongoing. This zoo territory consists of two huge mixed-animal aviaries and 11 African Savanna exhibits. See the meerkat family, hyenas, green monkeys and even a savanna monitor.

Visit the Mahali Pa Tembo (Place of the Elephant), to see African lions, giraffes, chimpanzees and more than 330 other animals from around the world who live in this Oakland hills park. The zoo includes a Children's Petting Zoo, the Skyride, a miniature train, a carousel, picnic grounds and a gift shop.

"Simba Pori," Swahili for "Lion Country," is a spacious 1.5-acre habitat offering both a savanna and woodland setting for two adult African lions and four young lions.

"Footprints from the Past," is an anthropology exhibit showcasing 4 million years of human evolution and an actual "footprint" of the first hominids to emerge from the African savanna.

"Sun Bear Exhibit." See the state-of-the-art space the zoo has developed for its two sun bears. The bears' home is designed to challenge the bears mentally as well as physically, forcing them to forage for food as much as they would do in the wild. The naturalistic habitat is over an acre in size and includes mulch pits for exploration, climbing structures, nesting structures, a large pond and rooting machines.

The Siamang Island Exhibit, ongoing. The Island is a state-of-the-art, barrier-free exhibit that emulates the gibbons' native tropical rain forest habitat.

SPECIAL EVENT — "Zoolights at the Oakland Zoo," through Dec. 30. This glittering wonderland of lights features playful characters created with 100,000 lights. Included will be kangaroos, animated elephants, lions, tigers and more. The mile-long adventure also features a visit to a Holiday

Village decked out with huge toy soldiers and candy canes. Daily, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. weather permitting. \$6.50 general; \$4 children age 2 to 14; free children under age 2. \$6.50 general; \$3.50 seniors and children age 2 to 14; free children under age 2; \$3 parking fee. Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Road exit off Interstate Highway 580, Oakland. (510) 632-9525 or www.oaklandzoo.org

Redwood Regional Park — "Redwood Walk," Dec. 16, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Experience the quiet grandeur of these timeless giants. Meet at Skyline Gate. For adults. Free. 7861 Redwood Road, Oakland. (510) 521-6887.

Tilden Regional Park — "Early A.M. Birdwalk," Dec. 17, 8 a.m. See the winter birds that have settled in. For age 10 and older. "Science Camp Cut-ups," Dec. 17, 10 a.m. Make fun paper cut-outs from NatureScope. \$3.

Hillbillies From Mars, Dec. 17, 2 p.m. A concert of American music. "Solar Sports," Dec. 21, 2 p.m. Learn about solar activity and how it affects our daily lives.

"Lights, Camera, Nature," Dec. 23, 10 a.m. Explore the natural world through the lens of a camera. For

age 12 and older. "Just Past Solstice Stories/Crafts," Dec. 23, 1 p.m. Learn about the summer and winter solstices with winter tales, songs of celebration, and arts and crafts. \$5 to \$7.

"Astronomy of the Star of Bethlehem," Dec. 24, 2 p.m. A slide show on the recent ideas about the special star.

"New Moon Hike," Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m. A walk to Wildcat Peak.

"Mini-Rangers," Jan. 9, 3:30 p.m. An active afternoon of nature study, conservation, and old-fashioned rambling. For age 8 to 12. Registration required.

BOTANIC GARDEN — Guided docent tours of the gardens. Call ahead for times and to confirm tour is on for the day; most Saturdays and Sundays, 2 p.m. Free. (510) 841-8325.

Free unless noted otherwise. Take Canon Drive off Grizzly Peak Boulevard, Berkeley. (510) 525-2233.

UC Berkeley Botanical Garden — ongoing. The gardens have displays of exotic and native plants. **TOURS** — Botanical Garden Tours, Saturday and Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Meet at the Tour Orientation Center for a free docent tour. \$3 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 children;

free on Thursday. Daily, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Botanical Garden, Centennial Drive, behind Memorial Stadium, a mile below the Lawrence

Hall of Science, Berkeley. (510) 643-2755 or www.mlp.berkeley.edu/garden/

Barnes And Noble, Oakland —

"Kids Story Times," ongoing. Stories will be read in the Children's book

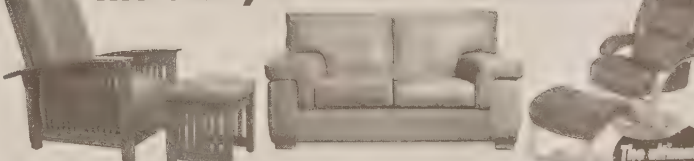
See EVENTS, Page C7

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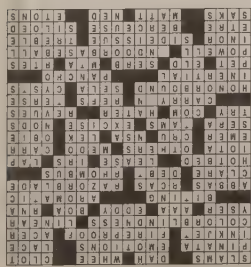
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"IT'S NOT A MEAL TO SKIP." Pat Craig, Contra Costa Times

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Events

FROM PAGE C6

area. Free. Thursday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. 98 Broadway, Jack London Square, Oakland. (510) 272-0120.

Berkeley Public Library —
NORTH BRANCH —
Opera Piccola, Dec. 19. A performance of "Hansel and Gretel."
1170 The Alameda. (510) 844-6850.
SOUTH BRANCH —
ZunZun, Dec. 19, 2 p.m. A performance of musical theater.
Gerry Tenney, Dec. 20, 2 p.m. The singer leads a family sing-along.
1901 Russell St. (510) 844-6860.
Free. Berkeley.

Children's Fairland USA — A fairy tale theme park featuring more than 30 colorful fantasy sets. Designed especially for children age 10 and under, there are gentle rides, a train, the "Peter Rabbit Village," puppet shows, storytelling and lots of slides and animatronics.
"Play Island," ongoing. A multi-level pre-school play area inspired by the novel "Swiss Family Robinson."

SPECIAL EVENTS —
Blake Maxam, Dec. 16 and Dec. 17. A performance of comedy and magic tricks.

Owen Baker Flynn, Dec. 23. "Act-in-a-Box" features juggling, tricks and jokes.

\$5 general includes unlimited rides, special shows, guest entertainers and puppet shows; free children under age 1. Friday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Grand and Bellevue Avenues, Oakland. (510) 452-2259 or (510) 238-6878 or www.fairland.org

Habitat Children's Museum —
A museum especially for children age 7 and younger. Highlights include "WaterWorks," an area with some unusual water toys, an Infant Tree for babies, a garden especially for toddlers, a child-scale grocery store and cafe, and a costume shop and stage for junior thespians. The museum also features a toy lending library.

EXHIBIT —
"Back to the Farm" open-ended. This interactive exhibit gives children the chance to wiggle through tunnels like an earthworm, look into a mirrored fish pond, don farm animal costumes, ride on a John Deere tractor and much more.

\$4 adults; \$6 children age 7 and under; \$3 for each additional child. Monday and Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kittredge Street and Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley. (510) 647-1111 or www.habitot.org

Hall of Health —

A hands-on community health education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center.

The Kids on the Block, Dec. 16, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The educational puppet troupe presents a show promoting acceptance and understanding of physical and mental differences.

EXHIBITS —

"This Is Your Heart!" ongoing. An interactive exhibit on heart health.
"Good Nutrition!" ongoing. This exhibit includes models for making balanced meals and an exercise for calculating how calories are burned.
"Draw Your Own Insides," ongoing. Human-shaped chalkboards and models with removable organs allow visitors to explore the inside of their bodies.

"Your Cellular Self and Cancer Prevention," ongoing. An exhibit on understanding how cells become cancerous and how to detect and prevent cancer.

Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 549-1564 or www.hallofhealth.org

Cal Performances —

"The Hard Nut" by Mark Morris, closing Dec. 17. The Mark Morris Dance Group performs this critically acclaimed adaptation of the traditional "Nutcracker" ballet.
\$26 to \$50. Thursday and Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. Zellerbach Hall, University of California, Bancroft Way and Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

Oakland Ballet —

"Nutcracker" choreography by Ronn Guld, closing Dec. 24. Accompanied by the Oakland East Bay Symphony, Michael Morgan conducting. The beloved ballet is about a young girl who receives a Nutcracker doll for Christmas and dreams it becomes a handsome prince who takes her to

the Land of the Sugar Plum Fairy. All-Star Night, Dec. 15, 7 p.m. Stars from local sports teams perform with the dancers.

Sweet Dreams Parties, Dec. 16. Dec. 17, Dec. 20, Dec. 23 and Dec. 24. Following the performance, \$3. \$7 to \$31. Dec. 15, Dec. 21 and Dec. 22, 7 p.m.; Dec. 16, Dec. 17, Dec. 20 and Dec. 23, 2 p.m.; Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 762-2277 or (415) 776-1999.

Chamber Music Sundaes —

Navarro Trio with San Francisco Symphony musicians, Dec. 17, 3:15 p.m. A program of works by Ned Rorem and Felix Mendelssohn.
\$16 general; \$13 seniors; \$7 youth under age 18. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. (415) 584-5946.

Holy Names College —

Holy Names College Orchestra, Roy Bogas conducting, Dec. 17, 3 p.m. Guest artists: Dan Smiley and Geraldine Walther, viola. A program of works by Gneg, Dvorak, and Mozart.
\$6 general; \$4 seniors and students. Regents' Theatre, Valley Center for Performing Arts, 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. (510) 436-1330.

Kofman Auditorium —

Rita Moreno, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. With Ian Robertson conducting the San Francisco Boys Chorus performing in the Alameda Civic Light Opera's Annual Holiday Concert.
\$25 to \$60. 2200 Central Ave., Alameda. (510) 864-2256.

Sacred and Profane —

Eduardo Mendelievich conducting, Dec. 16, 8 p.m. The chamber chorus presents "Holiday Spirit," a program of works by Brahms, Josquin, Maranzio, Britten, Kodaly, and others.
\$15 general; \$12 seniors and students. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. (510) 524-3611.

San Francisco Early Music Society —

"Renaissance En Provence," Dec. 16, 8 p.m. Terra Nova Consort in a program featuring carols and other traditional music from southern France and northern Spain.
\$22 general; \$19 seniors. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. (510) 528-1725.

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Elementary - Sat. Jan. 20, 2001 • 10:30 - Noon

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K-4th Grade - 1615 Carlson Blvd. Richmond, Thurs, Jan. 18 - 7pm

Preschool - 1711 Carlson Blvd. Richmond, Thurs, Jan. 25 - 7pm

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

Hall of Health, A Health Exhibit Museum, sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland, 2230 Shattuck Ave., offers free puppet shows on Saturday, Dec. 16, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, includes puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down Syndrome. The shows promote acceptance and understanding of physical and mental differences. Admission is free. Museum hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 549-1564.

Fall 2000 registration for Albany Preschool, 850 Masonic Ave., takes place on Saturday, Jan. 27 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Applications will be taken for the morning and afternoon programs in the order they are received. Priority is given to Albany residents. There is a \$25 non-refundable application fee to be paid at the time of registration. For more information, contact the preschool at 527-6403.

The City of El Cerrito, offers special programs for children from 22 months to five years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. For more information, call Judie, 215-4371.

Luna Kids Dance (LKD) offers dance and acting classes for children and teens ages 3-17 in a fun and supportive environment. Locations: Albany Community Center, 1249 Mann Ave.; El Cerrito, Contra Costa Civic Theater, 951 Pomona Ave.; Oakland, Glenview Performing Arts Center, 1318 Glenfield Ave. and Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd. For more information, call the LKD central office at 530-4113.

LBGTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

The Ann Martin Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley's public science museum and center for K-12 science and math education offers three residential summer science camps, including two camps held at actual University of California field research stations; and three Sierra backpacking summer science camps. Each camp emphasizes fun outdoor science explorations through hands-on, inquiry-based activities, as well as lots of traditional camp fun. Each camp has a unique theme, and is designed for a specific age group. Call 642-2275 or e-mail to: linfo@ucclink.berkeley.edu. To register, call 642-5134.

"Theater Rats," Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education: drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Community

The 17th annual Telegraph Avenue Holiday Street Fair runs for six days: Saturday, Dec. 16 and Sunday, Dec. 17, Thursday, Dec. 21 and Friday, Dec. 22, Saturday, Dec. 23 and Sunday, Dec. 24. The fair is located on Telegraph Avenue between Bancroft Way and Dwight Way. More than 200 street artists, merchants and community groups will fill four blocks of Telegraph Avenue when it is closed to traffic. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Gray Panthers host a holiday party on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2-4 p.m. at the University Co-op Housing, Social Room, 1471 Addison. There will be food, drinks and music. Take the walkway to the rear of the building. Call 548-9696 for more information.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

Marlon Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-6606.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

Overeaters Anonymous meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 541 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively. For further information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toestmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice—Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the

ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

"Work Buddies", volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic, 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 1-800-642-9355

SMART project; the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-in-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

David Moleksy, UC Berkeley Graduate, is featured in a one-man exhibition through Dec. 18, at Au Couquetel, 2000 University Ave. Moleksy's paintings

have been exhibited widely in North Carolina, California, and the D.C. area. Moleksy's paintings incorporate influences of Renaissance masters such as Raphael, Titian, and Giotto and modern American masters like Rothko and Pollock. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. and Saturday through Sunday, 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. For more information, call 757-5647.

The John F. Kennedy University Arts Annex, 2956 San Pablo Ave., continues its "Fourth Annual Faculty Exhibition," through Jan. 4. The exhibit includes paintings by F. Bogzaran, M. Grady, L. Hyams, F. Martin, J. Morgan, and C.

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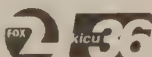
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Genn and Diane Colacurci

Ons Sounkmeyer

Calendar

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guest artists. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

Kale Gallery features an exhibit of more than 60 artists affiliated with the gallery through Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2001. 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley near Ashby and San Pablo avenues. Call 549-2977.

The Fig Tree Gallery, 2599 Eighth St. #42, presents "The Annual Holiday Group Show and Sale" through Dec. 30. The exhibit features paintings, sculpture and mixed media by 25 East Bay artists. Hours: Thursdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and by appointment. Call 540-7843 for appointments. Call Bonnie Mager, 628-7907, for more information.

The Cecile Moucheneck Gallery, 1809 D Fourth St., presents an exhibition entitled "The Gift of Art: Small Works," new works by Stuart Allen, Dina Angel-Wing, Heidi Dasuyo, Jennifer Kent, Inna Kramer, Lucy Maltzer, Michael Shemchuk, and Seiko Tachibana. The show runs through Jan. 14, Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sundays, noon-5 p.m. For more information, call 549-1018.

The Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studios continues through Dec. 16 and 17 on Saturdays and Sundays, 11-5 p.m. One hundred Berkeley artisans will participate in this self-guided tour. A

map is available by mail. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Berkeley Artisans Map, 1250 Addison St., #214, Berkeley, CA 94702. For other map distribution points, call 845-2612. For more information, call 845-2685, or visit the Web site at www.berkeleyartisans.com.

"Against All Odds: Ingenuity, Talent and Disability," continues through Dec. 16 at the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. The exhibition celebrates the inventive spirit of six talented artists and focuses public discussion on alternative ways disabled artists are working. The exhibition features Casper Banjo, Philip Martin Chavez, Timothy Rene Lynn, Charles Nagle, Thomas Victor Siporin, and Elsa Waller. The show includes media ranging from prints and ceramic sculpture to computer-generated paintings and collage works. Hours: 2-4 p.m. Call 644-6893 for more information.

A New Leaf Gallery, 1286 Gilman St., presents "Mostly Glass," continuing through Dec. 17. Artist includes Lynne Rachel Altman, Patricia Bengtson-Jones, Eric Ehlenger, Shirley Erickson, Bella Feldman, Kristin Gudjonsdottir, Gail Paradise, David Ruth and Bart Trickett. Gallery hours: Wed-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 525-7621.

The UC Berkeley Art Museum, 2626 Bancroft Way, presents the exhibit "Amazons in the Drawing Room: The Art of Romaine Brooks," through Jan. 16. For

more information, call 642-0808 or visit the Web site at www.bampfa.berkeley.edu.

The City of El Cerrito presents Open Clay Studio ongoing classes on Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Experience with clay is helpful, but not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore areas of clay work. Demonstrations and instruction will be provided on requests. Admission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.38 nonresidents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For more information, call Judie at 215-4371.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

New Pieces Gallery is located on Solano Avenue. New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Literary Events

Marin author Malcolm E. Barker will sign

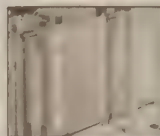
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Calendar

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copies of the newly revised and expanded edition of his classic book "Bummer & Lazarus, San Francisco's Famous Dogs," on Friday, Dec. 22, 11 a.m. at George Shop, 1829 Fourth St. The two cunning canines roamed San Francisco in the 1860s, and their story is told through actual newspaper accounts. Call 644-1033 for more information.

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

Meetings

The California Retired Teachers Association, West Contra Costa Division #58, meet for lunch at noon Jan. 2, at St. Luke's Methodist Church, 3200 Barrett Ave., Richmond. The program features slides comparing the lives of Agatha Christie and Daphne DuMaurier, presented by Jackie Hetman. Lunch cost: \$9. Call 234-3046 by Dec. 29 for luncheon reservations.

Berkeley Camera Club meet Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. at Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. Call Wade at 531-8664 for more information.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together. For more information, call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

Berkeley Toastmasters Club meet monthly, on the first and third Thursdays at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group specializes in developing its communication

and public speaking skills in the field of metaphysics. The group also learn from each other through short speeches. Call Odette Lardie at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

The Kensington Senior Activity Center meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Cove. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for additional information.

The YWCA offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For additional information, call 848-6370.

The Berkeley Camera Club meets every Tuesday evening, 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Participants share slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. Call Wade for information, 531-8664.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters. The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information. The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a rheumatologist, has treated many patients with various types of arthritis and will be available for questions. For additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the

English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical

Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m.,

See CALENDAR, Page C11

Holiday Entertainment



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Calendar

FROM PAGE C10

2515 Hillcrest Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

Healing and Healing: Voices of Healing Story Circle. Spiritually oriented group for people living with life-threatening illness. Meets second Wednesday of each month in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for information.

Health Telemasters Club: Meet every second and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment: 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; Sun. informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 650 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; Call 441-5337, \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups: Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous: a 12 step program providing free aid for those with eating problems; meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 601 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 275-9922.

Open House: 3:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Solubility, Albany Chapter meets at 900 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen 525-6858.

Toastmasters: noon - 1 p.m. Tuesdays; stand up and say what you mean; practice with the toastmasters; 700 Heinz Ave., Berkeley; 855-6708.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology: sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advanced reservations are required; drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffei Auditorium on Hercules Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Details: 204-4503.

Music:

Bella Musica Chorus and Orchestra: Arlene Sagan, directing, present a musical concert on Friday, Dec. 16 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1640 Addison St. Program includes: Nohis Pacem, Songs to Peace, Handel: Messiah part I, and excerpts from Parts II, III, Rossi: Alleanza, Barber: Agnus Dei Thompson: Alleluia Bach: "Dona nobis pacem" from the Mass Callaway: Alleluia. Suggested Donation: \$12. For information or tickets, call 525-5393 or e-mail: arene@bellamusic.org

Choirs from the East Bay: including groups from Alameda, Oakland, Berkeley and San Leandro perform on Friday, Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Oakland Zoo, 9777 Golf Links Road. 10:15 The Bone's Zoo Lights - opens from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., weather permitting, through Dec. 30. Admission is \$5.50 for 15 and older, \$4.50 for children 2-14. Children under two are free. Call 632-9525 for more information or visit www.1077thebone.com., or www.oaklandzoo.org

First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley: 2407 Dana St., presents a festive evening of fine choral music and audience participation with orchestra on Sunday, Dec. 17, 8 p.m. The evening features music spanning from the Baroque period to the present. Performers include the St. Voice Chancel Choir, Bay Area soloists and the Festival Orchestra under the musical direction of Mitchell Covington. Free admission. A free-will offering will be taken for purchasing medical supplies for Eastern Europe;

free parking and childcare available. Call 848-6242 for more information.

The San Francisco Early Music Society (SFEMS) presents the early music ensemble Terra Nova Consort in "Renaissance on Providence," on Saturday, Dec. 16, 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way. The award-winning Terra Nova Consort makes its Bay Area debut the weekend of Dec. 15 with a concert program that explores the Mediterranean, Spanish, and Arabic threads running through the rich tapestry of Provincial cultural. Call 528-1725 for more information about the SFEMS concert series and its other programs or visit the Web site at www.sfems.org.

Dance for the Forests: The Alice Di Miele Band will perform a dance concert to benefit the Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters, at Ashkenaz, Friday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. at 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.

Terra Nova Consort performs in "Renaissance on Providence," Carols from Southern France on Saturday, Dec. 16

8 p.m. at First Congregational Church, Berkeley. Tickets: \$22 or \$19 (members and seniors). Information: 528-1725 or www.sfems.org.

The Distaff Singers, an established East Bay Women's chorus, is seeking new members. No auditions required, just a love of singing. Classical, pop, sacred, Broadway. Rehearsals Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Call Michelle 601-5624, or L.J. 482-1677.

Ducksan Distones, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Guistino on Frattless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partner necessary for line

dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Outdoors

Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds: house sparrows, starlings and pigeons are introduced species that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these species to the wild life they deserve to have. Free training and some supplies. Call Myra 531-3042 or Lella 655-3911.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers "Scribble Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and to find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointments and is free to YWCA members. Call 848-6370 for additional information, leave a message for Anne Levine.

East Bay Regional Park Botanical Garden Tilden Park, presents regular tours, seven days a week. Week days 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays 2 p.m. Special tours by appointment. Call 841-8732. For a schedule of upcoming classes call 925-820-1021.

Support

NAME-East Bay, formerly Aviance for the mentally ill, sponsors a support group for families for children with mental illness. This group is to provide information and support to families for children and adolescents with mental illness. The next meeting is on Tuesday, Dec. 19 from 7-8:45 p.m. at University Christian Church, 2401 El Conate Ave. Support meetings are free. For more information, call ASA-AMI at 841-8361.

The pain and grief associated with the death of a loved one can often feel overwhelming - especially during the holidays. Many people suffer isolation. The grief counseling project is here to help. No one is turned away for lack of

money. Call 889-1104.

"The Grief Care Community" offers a week bereavement support groups as well as art therapy grief groups, and individual support. Call 540-0830 for additional information.

The local self-help group for Berkeley National Multiple Sclerosis Society meets periodically. Call Toni at 653-4534 for additional information.

Alta Bates Medical Center Herrick Campus offers a guided relaxation and visualization for people with cancer every Thursday, 5-6 p.m. at its Comprehensive Cancer Center, first floor Conference Room, 2001 Dwight Way. The Center offers this solution with an innovative approach to reducing stress and anxiety and creating positive, life-affirming images. Call 204-1811 for additional information. Call 204-1811 for additional information.

Alta Bates Medical Center, offers a Grief Education Class every third Saturday of

See CALENDAR, Page C13

Holiday Greetings

GRAND RE-OPENING SALE!

10-20% OFF Everything In Stock

GOLDEN GATE WESTERN WEAR

New Stock Arriving DAILY!

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% of Sales go to the Art Students and Teachers of the WCCUSD

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Childcare Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 8:30pm Saturday - Sunday 9:00am - 3:00pm

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Handel: Messiah

Adagio for Strings

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Allegria

Also Bach, Bernstein, Calloway

Monday, Dec. 18, 2000 6 P.M.

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2000 4 P.M.

St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1640 Addison St. Alameda, Berkeley

\$12.00 donation

wheelchair accessible

Info: (510) 525-5393 or www.bellamusic.org

Hunting for a home?

LEGAL NOTICE

FILED
OCTOBER 26, 2005
STEPHEN L. WEIR
CLERK
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
FILE NO. 2000-7440
**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**
The name of the business
ROOTS & RHYTHM is located
at 422 Alabaster Street,
Oakland, California 94612.
This statement is being
heretby registered by the
following owner(s)
American Music Sales
State of Incorporation California
This business is conducted
by a corporation
i/c/ Nancy Scott-Noenig,
Secretary
This statement was filed with
the County Clerk of
Contra Costa County on
business commenced on
October 24, 2005
Expires October 26, 2005
Legal The Journal #0515,
Publican November 24, De-
cember 1, 15, 2000

FILED
NOVEMBER 15, 2005
STEPHEN L. WEIR
CLERK
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
by J. Odegaard,
Deputy
FILE NO. 2000-7440
**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**
The name of the business
222 DAVILA WAY #C
is located at 5322 DAVILA
STREET, CA 94603, CA
94603 is 5322 DAVILA
by the following owner(s)
Michael Page
222 DAVILA WAY #C
OAKLAND, CA 94603
by an individual
1/15/2006
This statement was filed with
the County Clerk of
Contra Costa County on
business commenced on
November 15, 2005
Expires November 15,
2006
Legal The Journal #0515,
Publican December 1, 8, 15,
22, 2000

FILED
NOVEMBER 02, 2005
STEPHEN L. WEIR
CLERK
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

FILE NO. 2000-7199

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**

The name _____ of the business
NO ONE BQ & RESTA-
URANT, located at 1310 N. 11th St.
in Monument Blvd. in Con-
cord, CA 94520
is hereby registered by the
following owner(s)

Yong Su Kim
3717 Behrens St.
El Cerrito, CA 94530
Seng Sun Kim
3717 Behrens St.
El Cerrito, CA 94530

This business is conducted
by _____ and wife
Y/Su Kim Kim was filed
with the County Clerk of
Contra Costa on date indi-
cated below.

Business commenced on
November 02, 2000
Expires _____ 2005
Legal The Journal _____ 2005
Publish December 1, 2005
22, 2000.

FILE NO. 2000-7198

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**

The name _____ of the business
STEPHEN L. VITA, County Clerk
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
is hereby registered by the
following owner(s)

FILE NO. 2000-7197

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**

The name _____ of the business
GOOD LIFE 1310 N. 11TH ST.
located at 1310 N. 11th St.
in Monument Blvd. in Con-
cord, CA 94520
is hereby registered by the
following owner(s)

Diane Marie Von Goethe
3717 Behrens St.
El Cerrito, CA 94530
Richmond, CA 94804

This business is conducted by:
/s/ Diane Marie Von Goethe
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Contra Costa on date indicated by file stamp above
November 20, 2000
Expires November 22, 2000
Legal Notice #0521
Published December 8, 15, 22 2000
FILED
NOVEMBER 22, 2000
STEPHEN L. WEAVER
County Clerk
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
By J. Odegaard, Deputy
FILE NO. 0000000000
**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
STATEMENT**
The name of the business: HOME MORTGAGE GROUP, INC. is located at 3550 San Pablo Dam Rd., #118 in the City of Sausalito, California. It is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Leticia Short
3550 San Pablo Dam Rd.,
#118
El Sobrante, CA 94803
This business is conducted by: an individual
/s/ Leticia Short
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Contra Costa on date indicated by file stamp above
November 22, 2000
Expires November 22, 2000

Shop For A Home From Home.

www.homehunter.com

HILLS

Classified

More ads, more choice, more results

More ads, more choice, more results

Calendar

FROM PAGE C11

December 10 a.m. to noon at ABMC
Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. The
class covers common and personal
reasons. Fee: \$10. No one
is allowed due to inability to pay. For further
information contact 841-2930.

Bates Medical Center 3001 Dwight
Way, offers support group classes for
cancer survivors and their families and
friends on the first Tuesday of the
month, from 4-5 p.m. at the Herrick
Campus of Alta Bates Medical Center.
There is no admission charge and ad-
mission registration is not necessary. Call
204-4533 for additional information.

Comprehensive Cancer Center and
Breast Center, Alta Bates Medical
Center, 3001 Dwight Way, offers a sup-
port group for friends and families cop-
ing with cancer. The support group is
held on the second and fourth Tues-
day of each month. This is a free ser-
vice. Call 204-1811 for additional infor-
mation.

Lupus Foundation of Northern Cali-
fornia is still accepting applications for
Young Adult Support Program cur-
rently underway at Lucille Packard Chil-
dren's Hospital at Stanford. The group
meets monthly and is open to teens suf-
fering from lupus and other rheumatic
diseases. For more information, call
(415) 954-8600 or visit www.balf.org.

City of Berkeley Portable Meals pro-
gram desperately needs drivers to de-
liver 15 meals once a week to home-
bound seniors. Call 844-8590.

North Berkeley Senior Center is also
seeking volunteers to work in its gift
shop coffee bar and dining area three
times a week, one day a week. Call 644-
1077.

Berkeley Arthritis Support and Edu-
cation group presents Dorothea Dorenz,
a certified massage and move-
ment therapist, who teaches self-healing
methods. Bring a small pillow, and wear
loose, comfortable clothing. For direc-
tions or more information, call 204-4503.

Lecture/Workshop
Travel tips. Inbound Travel Industry, Mon-
day, Dec. 18, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. at
Vista Community College, 2020 Milvia
St., Room 203, between University and
Admission. Berkeley. Cost \$5.50 for Cali-
fornia residents, \$77 for non residents.
Call 981-2931.

How to Buy a Computer, a free seminar at
the BCS Center for Computer Learning,
Saturday, Dec. 16 9-10 a.m. at 1700
Sausalito Ave., Suite A. Call 526-5666.

The Jewish Family and Children's Services
of the East Bay, 2484 Shattuck Ave., Ste.
210, offers a two-hour workshop for high
school seniors. Students will look at their
decision making process and learn how
to manage stress. Participants discuss life
after high school, including how peer and
parent relationships change, the com-
plexion and pressure to get into college,
employment, and other post-graduation
options. Call 704-7475 for more infor-
mation.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its
Training Point Career Center. The orien-
tations outline the resources available to
the public as well as the different things
that the center has to offer such as a
great variety of workshops. They are
held every Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. The
Training Point Career Center is located
at 2800 Bancroft Way. For more infor-
mation, call 848-6370.

Learn Computer Applications for the
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Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Pub-
lisher. Class offered: Monday-Friday,
2:35-6:15 p.m. Location: Contra Costa
County Office of Education, 13925 San
Pablo Ave., Suite No. 111, San Pablo.

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"What is Meditation," is a peaceful and
practical introduction to the basics of
meditation. The free seminar takes
place at Barnes and Noble Bookellers,
2352 Shattuck Ave. Prigito Dove is the
facilitator. Call 644-0861 for additional
information.

Emotions Anonymous: Twelve-Step
meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. Call
236-8226 for Berkeley location.

Theater, Dance & Film

Aurora Theatre Company has extended
its production of Conor McPherson's
"The Weir," through Dec. 30 at the
Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave.

The play is set in a rural Irish pub
where the regulars try to impress a vis-
iting young woman with spooky stories,
until she gives them all chills with her
own tale. Tickets: \$30 Call 843-4822 or
visit the Web site at www.aurorathe-
atre.org for tickets or more information.
Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison
St., continues its production of
"Dinner with Friends" through Jan. 5.
Donald Margulies' Pulitzer prize-winning
comedy, directed by Richard Seyd, ex-
plores marriage and friendship in mid-
life. Tickets are priced between \$20.25
("HotTix" price) and \$51, depending on
the day of the week. Group discounts;
students and senior half price "Rush"
tickets are available. The theater is
wheelchair accessible and has seating

and special services for the visually and
hearing impaired. For more information
or to charge tickets, call the Berkeley
Rep sales office at 647-2949.

Domingo de Rumba presents Cuban
fundamental rhythm and dance on Sun-
day, Dec. 17, at 4:30 p.m. at La Pena
Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave.
Rumba is one of the oldest music styles
in the Afro-Cuban culture, with mainly
three expressions: Yambu, Columbia,
and Guaguancó. The event is free. Call
849-2568 for more information.

The Masquers Playhouse, 105 Park
Place, Point Richmond, continues the
children's classic "The Secret Garden,"
through Dec. 18, Friday and Saturday
evenings. This play is based on the
novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett.

Piot, Mary Lennox, orphaned at 11, is
sent to Yorkshire to live with her reclu-
sive uncle and his invalid son. Great for
all ages. All tickets \$12. To make a
reservation, call the group's 24-hour
reservation line, 232-4031.

Learn easy international folk dances, fun
for all ages at the Albany YMCA, 921
Kans Ave. No experience necessary.
Wear comfortable shoes and come pre-
pared for a good time. Admission
Adults \$2 and \$1 for kids. For more in-
formation, call 525-1130.

Family Folkdancing takes place on the
third Sundays, 1-2:30 p.m. at Ashkenaz
Music and Dance Community Center,
1317 San Pablo Ave. Instructor: Denise
Schultz Weiss. Bring your feet and a
spirit of fun. No experience necessary.

An opportunity for families to dance
and laugh together. Drop in for good
fun and exercise. All ages welcome.
Drop-in class, no registration needed.
Adults \$3, children \$2. Call 632-3713
for additional information.

Swing Dance Classes! Learn East coast
swing and Lindy Hop with Michael and
Persephone of Shagtime Dance In-
struction, on Mondays at the Work Studio,
2566 Telegraph Ave. Beginning Lindy
Hop runs 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. East
Coast Swing from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and
beginning Lindy Hop 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
on Tuesdays, at The Beat, 2560 Ninth
St. Classes run as a monthly series. For
more information, call Michael Maran-
gio at 528-7858.

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658 Clement St. 415-750-4300
SAN FRANCISCO (Between 14th & Vicente)
244 W. Portal Ave. 415-682-2500
SAN FRANCISCO
N. Columbus Ave. 415-955-8500
SAN FRANCISCO (California & Battery)
311 California 415-362-7900
SAN FRANCISCO (Market & Fremont)
425 Market Street 415-495-2220
SAN FRANCISCO
2812 Mission St. 415-695-7077
SAN FRANCISCO (Union at Webster)
2102 Union St. 415-931-4300
SAN FRANCISCO (Between Sanchez & Noe)
2258 Market Street 415-437-1600

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1118 Burlingame Ave. 650-558-9900
COLMA (280 Metro Center)
13 Colma Blvd. 650-301-5000
DALY CITY (Westlake Shopping Center)
343 Mayfair Ave. 650-758-3600
MENLO PARK (Between Valparaiso & Oak Grove)
1283 El Camino Real 650-688-0800
MOUNTAIN VIEW (Blossom Valley Shopping Ctr)
1776 Miramonte Ave. 650-934-0830

MOUNTAIN VIEW

2464 El Camino Real 650-691-9700
PALO ALTO
4191 El Camino Real 650-320-8000
PALO ALTO (Palo Alto Downtown)
476 University Ave. 650-324-2300
SAN CARLOS (El Camino & San Carlos Ave)
1101 San Carlos Ave. 650-508-8200
SAN MATEO (Next to Benjamin Franklin Hotel)
60 E. Third Ave. 650-343-2900
SUNNYVALE
219 W. El Camino Real 408-616-0006

EAST BAY

BENICIA (Southampton Shopping Ctr)
818 Southampton 707-751-3900
BERKELEY (Solano & Peralta)
1559 Solano 510-559-3100
LAFAYETTE (Lafayette Town Center)
3592 Mt. Diablo Blvd. 925-284-6300
MARTINEZ (Muir Station Shopping Ctr)
514 Center Ave. 925-957-8800
OAKLAND
3900 Piedmont 510-594-9700
OAKLAND (Montclair District)
2067 Mountain Blvd 510-338-9900
OAKLAND (Lakeshore at 580)
3201 Lakeshore Dr. 510-208-3300
PLEASANTON (Hoyard & Stone Ridge)
4555 Hoyard Rd. 925-734-0400

SAN LEANDRO

(Juana at 14th)
120 Juana 510-614-9500
SAN RAMON (Bishop Ranch)
134 Sunset Dr. C-1A 925-327-7100
SAN RAMON (Diablo Plaza)
2415 San Ramon Valley Blvd. 925-362-0700
UNION CITY (Union Landing)
32280 Dyer 510-487-6600

SOUTH BAY

GILROY (Prime Retail Outlet)
681 Leavesley 408-846-5666
MILPITAS (McCarthy Ranch)
238 Ranch Dr. 408-946-4300
SANTA CLARA (Mission College Blvd)
4300 Great America Pkwy 408-853-1600
SANTA CLARA (Sloans Creek & Lawrence Exp.)
5155 Sloans Creek Blvd. 408-243-1200
SARATOGA (Argonaut Center)
12868 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd. 408-872-8900

SAN JOSE

SAN JOSE
1525 Meridian 408-445-2400
SAN JOSE (Camden & Union Next to Lucky's)
2043 Camden Ave. 408-369-8700
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125 Bernal Rd. 408-361-0120

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SAN JOSE

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384 N. Capital Ave. 408-254-8900

SAN JOSE

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1620 Mendocino 707-591-9500

NAPA (Silverado Plaza)
629 Trancas 707-265-7600

SOUTH/MONTEREY

MONTEREY (Del Monte Shopping Ctr)
400 Del Monte Center 831-642-0100

SEASIDE (Laguna Plaza)
1130 N. Fremont 831-392-1800

SALINAS (Westridge Shopping Ctr, Next to Applebees)
1295 N. Davis Rd. 831-759-9400

WATSONVILLE (Overlook Shopping Ctr)
1443 Main St. 831-768-1200

FRESNO

FRESNO (Show & Fealand)
3191 Shaw Ave. 559-243-2000

FRESNO (Cedar & Shepard)
8817 N. Cedar 559-353-3999

Holiday Hours
Monday Dec. 18th through Saturday Dec. 23rd OPEN TIL 9:00pm
Sunday Dec. 24th OPEN TIL 5:00pm

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Auto Plus

Advertising supplement to The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

December 15, 2000

Section D

Keane on Wheels GMC's Sonoma Crew Cab feature-heavy workhorse [D2]

Classic Classics '51 'Shoebox' Ford streamlined for its day [D4]

Auto Directory Find the best places to purchase your next vehicle [D5]

New age of hydrogen fuel cells dawns

Down the Road

By Herb Shulinder

In late 2000, DaimlerChrysler chairman Juergen Schrempp chose Mercedes World, a soaring car showroom in central Berlin, Germany for introducing the Necar 5, the company's newest fuel cell electric-powered car. Schrempp says the Necar 5 will go on sale as a Mercedes in California and selected European cities in 2004.

The company may also bring out a Chrysler brand fuel cell vehicle at about the same time, but that probably won't be the Jeep Commander 2 Schrempp introduced during the same program. The four-wheel drive Jeep Commander 2 also uses a fuel cell that derives its hydrogen from liquid methanol. The hydrogen's reaction with oxygen from air creates electricity for the two AC induction motors, one on each axle for full-time 4WD.

A fuel cell is a type of battery first created for use in the space program to make drinking water for astronauts. It produces energy from a chemical reaction that combines hydrogen and oxygen. There are a variety of fuel cells, but carmakers have focused on proton exchange membrane fuel-cell technology because it allows them to run vehicles on hydrogen gas or on hydrogen derived from methanol or gasoline.

See DOWN, Page D2



NECAR 5, DaimlerChrysler's newest fuel cell electric-powered car, will go on sale as a Mercedes in California and selected European cities in 2004.

Drive, She Said



By Denise McCluggage

Timely tips for driving on slippery roads

Now for the annual reminder to drivers: Winter roads can be slippery. Somehow over the milder months drivers forget. Why else the surprise as they slide across polished roadways into ditches, each other or unyielding objects?

I'm listing a few principles to help you cope with a vehicle made as noncompliant as a two-year-old by snow, ice or other thieves of traction. My credentials: a baker's dozen of winters in Vermont and a class victory in the Monte Carlo rally many Januaries ago. And no headers into snow banks for a long time now.

First, I'm not going to admonish you to slow your pace when roadways are slippery. If you haven't the wit to drive

See DRIVE, Page D2

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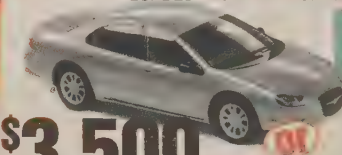
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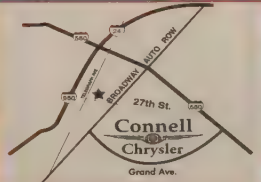
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Boxy 1951 Ford was quite streamlined for its time

Ford was enjoying tremendous sales success a half century ago with its first redesigned cars of the post-World War II era. Like every other American automobile manufacturer, Ford's immediate postwar offerings were simply warmed-over prewar models.

With young Henry Ford II at the helm of the company in the autumn of 1948, the slab-sided 1949 Ford was introduced with the distinctive wind splits on the rear fenders leading into the horizontal taillights.

The 1950 and 1951 Fords were merely refined and improved versions of the 1949 models. Years later, those three model years became known as "shoe box" Fords. They may appear boxy now, but compared to the competition then, the shoe box Fords were quite streamlined.

Ford Motor Co. in 1951 employed this slogan: "You can pay more, but you can't buy better." Bill Vincent subscribes to that theory regarding 1951 Fords.

It just took him 44 years to act upon it. In June 1995, he became the third owner of a 1951 Ford Custom four-door sedan, one of 232,691 manufactured.

Vincent found the black sedan for sale, with only 55,000 miles recorded on the odometer. "All it needed was tuning up," Vincent said. Thereafter, the 100-horsepower, 239-cubic-inch, flathead V-8 ran like it was supposed to. The power produced by the trusty engine appears perfectly matched to the 3,102-pound weight of the car.

Vincent's Ford carried a base price of \$1,553 when new. After adding the cost of a Magic Air heater, a five push-button AM radio and a spotlight, the price must have been dangerously close to \$2,000.

In 1951, Ford departed for the first time from a symmetrical

dashboard. All of the instruments and controls were clustered for the driver's convenience. The only thing left in the passenger's control was the glove compartment.

A nice effort at originality was made regarding the speedometer. The end of the needle didn't point to the speed. Instead, the speedometer needle had a ring at the end of the needle, which moved to encircle the traveling speed — not exactly the most accurate measurement of speed, but it worked.

Other design innovations were appreciated more, changes such as the trunk lid hinges being concealed and a strip of chrome being wrapped below the rear window.

More chrome and brightwork were applied to the Ford on the rear fender wind splits.

On the 1951 Ford, they were covered with chrome, and the molding along each side didn't end at the rear fender.

Rather, it continued around the rear of the car below the lip of the trunk, connecting the two sides.

At the other end of the car, the stylists made customizers of 1949 and 1950 Fords happy with the flat, straight-across engine hood lip above the grille.

Soon after he brought the car home, Vincent was lying on the car's front floor working under the dashboard, while his wife, Louise, was delivering and retrieving whatever tools he needed.

Unfortunately, neither of them thought to make certain that the Ford was in gear or that the hand brake was set or a wheel chock was in place behind any of the wheels on the 114-inch wheel-base Ford.

The car, with Vincent on the front floorboards, rolled backward out of the garage. Before

rolling to a complete stop, a tree had buckled the left front door. Amazingly, Vincent was able to locate another unblemished door in North Carolina.

In 1996, the Vincents traveled to Dearborn, Mich., in their 1951 Ford to attend a gathering of old Fords.

On the way home, they drove for hours in the rain with their vacuum windshield wipers barely working.

They finally stopped a couple of hours from home and repaired the faulty wiper motor. "That's when the rain quit," Vincent said.

After more than five years of ownership, Vincent reports the odometer is just now approaching 58,000 miles.

"I'd take it out anywhere," Vincent says proudly of his shoe box Ford.

If you have an antique car of interest to "Classic Classics" readers, write to Vern Parker detailing its merits. (Please, no inquiries about selling or buying vehicles.) His address: 2221 Abbottsford Drive, Vienna, VA 22181.



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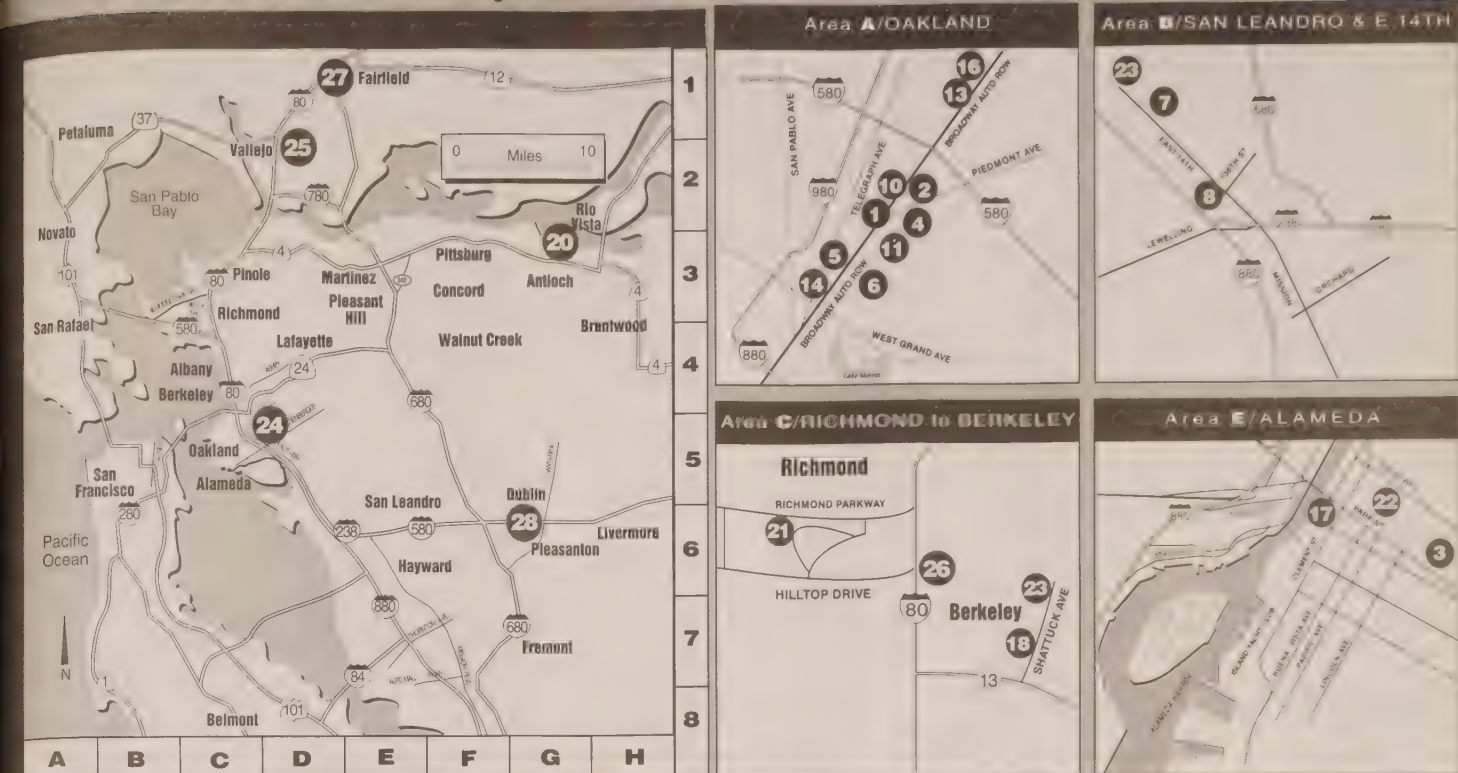
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Estab. local HVAC co. has immed. openings for hvac techs & installers. Bnits Acceptable DMV req'd. Send resume to: Sobolov Air Systems, 2355 Whittman Rd. Concord 94518 or fax to 925/798-0173

HVAC TECH/Drug free Top bnits/wages

Central County 925-933-0003

HVAC Techs/Installers

No exp. nec. will train. Great career opportunity! Call Cooke 925/521-2000

INSTALLER

Appliance installer, exp. helpful, will train the right person. Call Very Heavy Lifting Req'd. Med. dental/benefits. Call Sharp Installation, blwn 8 am-7 pm. (925) 943-4913

INSTALLER

blwy round equip. Clean, dependable. (925) 551-4172

250 Help Wanted

ANNUITY CLOSERS

- Strong Ethics
- No Prospecting
- Professional Organization
- \$60,000 Average Sales
- No "No Show"
- One Call Closing
- 8 Figure Income

For more information Call 1-800-641-7332. Ask for Richard Blake ext. 274

250 Help Wanted

Insurance

ARE YOU A CSR? If you are, we would like to talk to you about entering the exciting field of staffing insurance staff in the Bay Area. Qualified applicants will have knowledge in life line, product, advanced markets & sales exp. Will be ambitious, commission driven & have a strong relationship building skills. Fax resume to: 925-645-7944 or call (909) 901-6161, fax (925) 974-0422. www.insure-staff.com

INSURE-Staff

INSURANCE

Claims Supervisor

Concord-based brokerage has immed. opening for a Supervisor. Will strong comm'l. const. defect exp. req'd. Fax resume: 925-609-6550

INSURANCE

COMMERCIAL LINES

Concord office of Regional P.C. is seeking a Licensed Assistant for handling all types of commercial lines. Position reqs. minimum of 3 yrs exp. w/comp. or 401(k) EOE. Fax resume to: 925-645-7944 or call (909) 901-6161

INSURANCE

Hill, Rogal & Hamilton, recently selected by Fortune Magazine as one of the 200 Best Small Companies in America, has a position open in our Concord office for an Insurance Salesperson. Applicants should have a min. 5 yrs. exp. in sales exp. exp. understanding & firm knowledge & above avg. computer skills. Fax resume to: 925-645-7944 or call (909) 901-6161

INSURANCE

Insurance-Staff is the leader in staffing insurance professionals in both full-time and contract positions. We currently are seeking an Account Manager to handle new business in N. Cal. The ideal candidate will have 3+ years of experience in P.C. Medical or Workers Comp. experience in a sales position. Please submit your resume to: (925) 645-7944 or call (909) 901-6161

INSURE-Staff

INSURANCE

Marketing Coordinator

Insurance office seeks Processing Assistant. Bnits Call Cooke 800-443-6568

INSURANCE

Marketing Coordinator

Case Design Specialist. Ideal candidate should possess some life sales exp. & working knowledge advanced illustration software to provide support for life sales. mktg. Pacific Life products & services enthusiastically and strong communication skills are essential. This pos. cns. an excel. bnit, pkg. & competitive comp. rls. Fax resume to: 925-645-7944. EOE

CLASSIFIED

QUICK & EASY!

250 Help Wanted

Insurance

Insurance Group is growing and has immed. openings in downtown Oakland. We are seeking hands-on self-motivated people who excel in a team-oriented environment to join us.

Insurance

Customer Service

You will answer & assist incoming outside calls from agents & customers. (Job# 12105-CC)

Image Scanning Technician

You will scan & upload documents into workflow system. (Job# 12105-CC)

Underwriter

You will accept, decline or modify Personal Lines business by agents in a geographically assigned territory. (Job# 12105-CC)

Actuarial Market Research Analyst

You will conduct competitive analysis. (Job# 12105-CC)

Actuarial Analyst

You will research, analyze, calculate, and prepare for the various rates and loss reserve studies. (Job# 12105-CC)

Marketing Production Coordinator/Writer

You will produce marketing collateral using Quark, Corel, Dreamweaver and MS Office suite. Requires print production portfolio. We offer a competitive salary & benefits package. Please send your resume with salary requirements to: CSE Insurance Group, HR Dept. (Attn: Job#...), Suite 2550, San Francisco, CA 94111. Fax: 415-774-1800 or e-mail: sordana@cseinsurance.com

INSURANCE

Pleasanton Insurance office seeks Processing Assistant. Bnits Call Cooke 800-443-6568

INSURANCE

Please see our ad under Customer Relations for Short Term Residencies. Paradigm Health Corp.

CLASSIFIED

Something For You ALL THE TIME!

For Advertising: Call (925) 925-0220 or fax (925) 925-0220. San Ramon Valley Time: 925-327-3211 West Coast News: 510-758-0500 Ledger Dispatch: 925-739-9566 Oakland: 510-748-1667 Alameda: 510-748-1667

250 Help Wanted

Insurance

Insurance Group is growing and has immed. openings in downtown Oakland. We are seeking hands-on self-motivated people who excel in a team-oriented environment to join us.

Insurance

Claims Examiner

Seeking organized team player to process behavior. All health claims respond to claim inquiries and maintain department production and quality expectations. Requires 1+ years claims processing experience. Knowledge of CPIC/CD, insurance coding, and a background in a computerized claims payment system.

Provider Customer Service Representative

Seeking individual to manage high-volume of calls. Must be able to handle inquiries regarding eligibility benefits and claim status as well as ensure calls are handled in a timely manner. Req. exp. in a healthcare or insurance environment. PC proficiency in MS Word, Excel, and Outlook. We offer an excellent compensation and benefits package. Fax resume to: 925-645-7944 or call (909) 901-6161

NEW YEAR: NEW JOB!

Allied Insurance, a member of Nationwide Insurance is seeking a Claims Representative for its San Francisco office. The ideal candidate will have 3+ years of experience in a claims position, as well as excellent analytical skills, and an understanding of insurance making and negotiation. We offer a competitive salary & benefits package. Please send your resume to: Allied Insurance, HR Dept. (Attn: Job#...), Suite 2550, San Francisco, CA 94111. Fax: 415-774-1800 or e-mail: sordana@cseinsurance.com

INSURANCE

For immediate consideration, apply online at: www.alliedinsurance.com

LEGAL

Send resume to Myra Sherman, Mental Health, Contra Costa County, 1000 Ward Martinez, CA 94553

RECEPTIONIST

PIT, W.C. law firm. No exp. nec. salary DOE. Fax resume to: 925-645-7944

LEGAL SECRETARY

Variable & T.M. firm seeks experienced, computerized, scheduling, intellectually gifted exp'd personnel. Typing, grammar, organization, detail oriented. Excellent benefits. Resume to: Myra Sherman, Jones R. Oyler, 1401 St. Oakland CA 94612

LEGAL SECRETARY

Family law, experienced P/T person for 4 attorneys. Alameda law firm. Must be typed and supportive office. Salary DOE. Fax resume to: 510-965-4586

LOAN

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Natl. wholesale lender seeking exp'd Acct. Exec. for N. Bay, S. Bay, Alameda, Contra Costa, Calif. Gt. comp. plan, bn. benefits. Fax resume 925-686-0174

Broker Coordinator - Account Execs (3) Comm'l. Loan Officer

Fast moving mortgage Co. needs exp'd Acct. Execs. Must be willing to work hard & advance quickly. Exp. mandatory. Please fax resume 925-355-1737

LOAN

* Interviewing Now *

Processors, underw. Doc. Drawers, C. Auditors, Loan Officers, Temp/Direct Hrs. Medical Benefits. Fax resume 925-943-6575

LOAN OFFICER

Contemplating a career in mortgage banking? We improve your income? We offer great marketing training to help you develop your own business. Call Sam at 925-556-0107

LOAN OFFICER

Loan Processor, FHA/Conv. Highly motivated person who is conscientious. Great working exp. income. Fax resume 925-686-2177

LOCKSMITH

Min. 1 yr exp. P/T. Gt. comp. plan. Lock & Safe. 925-758-9673

CLASSIFIED = RESULTS

CLASSIFIED = QUICK & EASY!

250 Help Wanted

DE & LAPP-APPROVED UNDERWRITER

Kaufman and Broad Mortgage Company, a subsidiary of the largest homebuilder in the nation, has an opportunity for a DE & LAPP-APPROVED Underwriter. Requires 5+ years experience.

Kaufman and Broad offers top salaries, opportunities for advancement and an excellent benefits package. For consideration, please send resume and salary history to resumes@kfandb.com or FAX (619) 716-1802. Reference job code #HBMF255 EOE

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DE & LAPP-APPROVED UNDERWRITER

Kaufman and Broad Mortgage Company, a subsidiary of the largest homebuilder in the nation, has an opportunity for a DE & LAPP-APPROVED Underwriter. Requires 5+ years experience.

Kaufman and Broad offers top salaries, opportunities for advancement and an excellent benefits package. For consideration, please send resume and salary history to resumes@kfandb.com or FAX (619) 716-1802. Reference job code #HBMF255 EOE

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